Umineko no Naku Koro ni

うみねこのなく頃に

Chapter 1:
Dream from the Ocean

Episode2
Turn of the golden witch

The hammerhead sharks
leisurely swim
A girl who gazes at the sight
A new arc begins

Look,
George-sama
come and look
at this!

The highly praised creators of
"Higurashi no Naku Koro ni - tatarikoroshiken"
have come together once again!!

Original Work, Editor: Ryuukishi 07
Drawing: Jirou Suzuki

竜騎士07／07th Expansion

It's so cute! Look, look!
The couple who is enjoying their date at the aquarium...
It really is cute
Yeah
It's so cute that I almost want to eat it

I-It's bad to think of them like that
Did you know? It seems like only Japanese people will come to an aquarium and say something about fish being delicious
Is that so? But I think that Americans and Italians will definitely want to eat it, too
Um
SFX: surprised
You look pretty in that dress, Shannon
I mean it
Th
SFX: light heartbeat
Thank you very much

It's amazing
A water tank this big. I've never seen something like this before.
It's almost as if they cut out a piece of the ocean and brought it here...
You sure are using an interesting expression, Shannon
A fish tank...as a piece of the ocean
...Yes... this certainly may not be a real ocean...
...but

If those fish that are swimming in here believe that this is the ocean
then this is without a doubt, the ocean
If one can believe in that as a perfect world
then even the inside of a well...
can be an ocean in a wonderful world
...to the frog that's living inside...
Shannon, will that be enough for you?
ViewPoint Restau

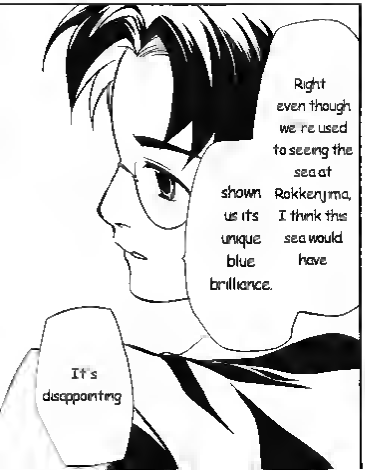
!
I think that George-sama would normally be eating a little more than that for lunch
How about you, George-sama?
SFX: surprised
Um...
Yes so I thaught that you might have lost your appetite for today
No haha I confess
I was just putting on airs since I was with a girl... haha
Shaat... that's right... Shannon already knows haw much I usually eat at the main family's hause

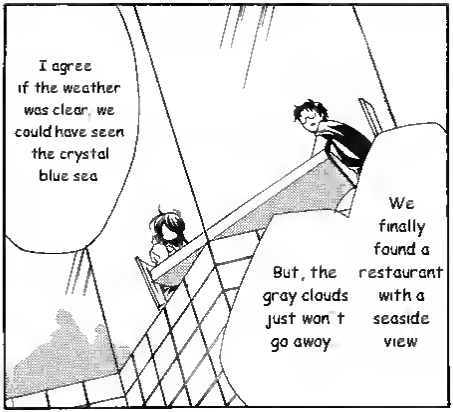
That's mean I'm the only one getting embarrassed
Please, don't restrain yourself and go and get more food
I thaught so Guessing from haw much you eat for lunch at the family's assembly,
I knew that wouldn't be enough
SFX kusu kusu (laugh)
Well how about you, Shannon?
!
Do you think you can still serve the Ushiromiya House after eating a smaller meal than usual?
Um oh
SFX chair moving
Okay!
It's not good for each of us to keep pretending
No more of that from now on

Okay...!
Let's go and get some fried goya at least!
It would be a waste not to try the goya*, especially since we came all the way to Okinawa

Note: Goya is Okinawan dialect for Nigauri (bitter melon)

SFX: sound of waves


It's disappointing
Right even though we're used to seeing the sea at Rokkenjima, I think this sea would have shown us its unique blue brilliance.


I agree if the weather was clear, we could have seen the crystal blue sea
But, the gray clouds just won't go away
We finally found a restaurant with a seaside view

If you had said "If it's just the two of us watching the ocean, it will be crystal blue even if it's gray, George-sama,"
So close!
then I would have given you a reward for getting it perfect!
I'm not in the middle of work today... so...
B-But... but...the ocean that I glance at while working is as bland as gray no matter how blue it is.
But...
U-Um well
if it's okay for me to ask
Do you want to ask what the reward would have been?
SFX: ahahahaha
Ah um I-I'm sorry...
Ooo (SFX choking of embarrassment)
Th-That's really mean!
あはははは
No! I won't tell you!

When you are done with your lunch, do you want to walk around the beach?
Maybe the clouds will clear, and we'll be able to see the wanderful ocean.
SFX: sound of waves
SFX: fufu (laugh)
Okay, let's do that!
but, before that...
Yes I would love to
That cake looks really delicious
Ah then I'll give you half of...
SFX: point, point

Here...
SFX
kusu kusu
(light laugh)
Haha, George-sama is such a spoiled child
Ah..!
(surprised)
SFX: wind
SFX
sound of waves

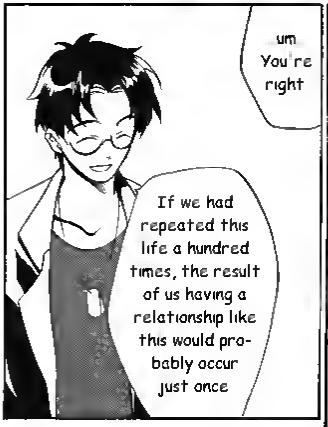
SFX grasp
AH! (excited)
SFX pressing hard
How should I put it it s like I am too happy to the point that I m almost afraid of it
I-I m a servant of the Ushiromiya house
For someone like me to be together like this with someone related to Ushiromiya
um
SFX sound of waves
I can't help but think that it's really beyond me
You're saying that again? What is there to be afraid of?

It never crossed my mind that I would have a relationship like this together with you.
It's not like I met you recently I have known you for many years.
But we've only greeted each other during a few family assemblies throughout the year..
I'm surprised, too
That goes for Shannon too, right?
Um..
I.. um.. have
Um..no! Rather than thinking about it..
It's more like I've only dreamt that it would be good to turn out like this.um..
only thought of it.. actually

Then our relationship is in debt to your wish to believe
There's a magic present in the power of thaughts so, that magic must have brought us together
you're right I think that
that was most likely a real kind of magic
but there is no magic in this world
if my existence was the same for you
then us being together here today was an inevitable result
Your existence that seemed to grow in beauty every time I came for the family assembly had been expanding within me
and
And it's not something like a miracle or magic

no
SFX: sound of waves
the miracle
Magic does exist, George-sama
what ?

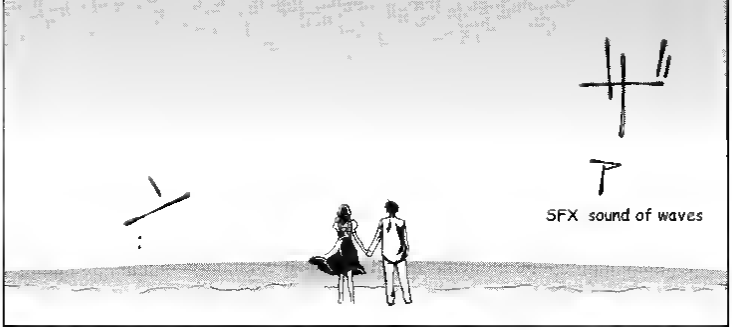
Is that some kind of charm?
Well...it may be something like that...
but


um... You're right
If we had repeated this life a hundred times, the result of us having a relationship like this would probably occur just once

it really is real...
magic

it's real magic...
I didn't mean it that way...

I believe you
Kanon, too, didn't believe me at all...
I guess men won't believe in these sort of things no matter haw many times I tell them...
I said something that would be belittling to your magic
I'm sorry, Shannon
I wouldn't want the magic to break because I didn't believe in it
George-sama...


SFX sound of waves

Yes
What is it?

By the way, I have a selfish request
Would you please listen to my request?

It-It s a rule? I-If I happen to break it, what will happen?

But you shouldn t do that when we re alone
Yes, let s make that a rule

Can you stop calling me "George-sama"?
Of course there s prestige involved with the Ushiromiya house So, I won t force you to do that for everyday life at Rokkenjima.

SFX hm
That's true
It would be good to have a punishment game in case of a violation
Do you want to know what it is?
N-No
SFX ahahaha
I'll put it under considera-tion for now
Okay
George
Yes
it's a wonderful sound
I'm glad, Shannon

I will follow the rule and call you Kiyo from now on
I see The rule shauld be fair after all
I I also have a given name it's Kiyo
Is that okay ? Kiyo ?
Yes
SFX pull
!

Endless Blue
Yes
If we can look at this together
then
this
Me, too
This sky
and ocean
...It's a splendidly clear blue sea...
I'm...happy to be seeing the ocean with you.

On that day
I have
SFX: waves crashing
really is
real
magic.

SFX sound of rain
MADE
A CONTRACT
WITH
A WITCH...

SFX: creaking
What in the world is this mirror ?
a mirror...
There's no reason to hesitate
Is this really going to
My destiny that I couldn't escape from until today
A mirror. That is my destiny
A mirror that I have to face for eternity
SFX: clenching teeth

Because I have come to realize that emotion which drives me crazy.
this is the
No
Take a bite of this fruit of wisdom."
Maybe I had already eaten that fruit.
The witch whispers into my ears.
To a piece of furniture like me trapped in Rokkenjima...
Is there anything else I can do?
ONLY WAY!
ACCEPT NEW AND UNKNOWN PAIN
THUS I WILL RELEASE MYSELF FROM BEING A PIECE OF FURNITURE.
AND BECOME A HUMAN BEING!

SHATTER APART THIS UNCHANGING DESTINY THAT I AM TRAPPED IN
FOR ENDLESS ETERNITY !!!
SFX: lightning

SFX: pant
I kept my part
of the promise...
SFX: pant
This time, it's your turn to keep your promise.
PLEASE, GRANT ME MY WISH!!

BEATRICE!

9月号に続く 8月18日月曜発売

Solo Style Bean

presents

Umineko no Naku Koro ni

EPISODE 2

Turn of the Golden Witch

Chapter 1

Translator: Shiki

Editor: Hei, SHIKI

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AT THAT TIME, I WAS A MIDDLE-SCHOOLER ...
YES.
TODAY, USHIROMIYA EVA-SAMA, HIDEYOSHI-SAMA AND GEORGE-SAMA WILL BE COMING FROM THE COUNTRY.
PLEASE DO NOT MAKE MISTAKES.
SHANNON — THE DAY HER LOVE BEGAN
うみねこのなく頃に

Episode2
Turn of golden witch

ORIGINAL WOOK- SUPERVISION:
OYUOKIS0I07

ART:
OOZUKI JIOOU

SOMETIMES I IMAGINE ROMANCES TYPICAL OF MY AGE
I WAS A NORMAL GIRL
BUT THAT THE TRUTH IS THAT I SHOULD NOT HAVE HAD THOSE DREAMS
BECAUSE...

I AM A FURNITURE

I'M LESS THAN
A HUMAN BEING

JUST BEING ALLOWED
TO RECEIVE COMPULSORY
EDUCATION

SHOULD HAVE BEEN
MORE THAN ENOUGH
HAPPINESS FOR ME

ARCHIPELAGO OF IZU
- ROKKENJIMA -

HOU, THAT SEEMS PROMISING.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
RIGHT NOW, I'M REALLY LEARNING A LOT FROM THE MANY VETERANS AT MY FATHER'S COMPANY.
BE SURE TO STUDY A LOT AT YOUR FATHER'S PLACE SO THAT YOU CAN HELP HIM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
<NEXT HEAD OF THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY>
<-USHIROMIYA KRAUSS>

<RANK 11 (GEORGE'S FATHER)> <USHIROMIYA HIDEYOSHI>
WHAT YOU LEARN AT SCHOOL IS NOT JAPANESE AND ARITHMETIC,
BUT THE ATTITUDE AND POSTURE TO LEARN THINGS.
HUMU, YOU'RE COMPLETELY RIGHT, HIDEYOSHI-SAN'S EDUCATION POLICY IS SPLENDID AS ALWAYS.
GEORGE STILL HAS A VERY LONG WAY TO GO!! HE HAS TO EMBRACE THE STUDIES WITHOUT FORGETTING THAT.
<RANK 3 (GEORGE'S MOTHER)> <USHIROMIYA EVA>
STOP IT, DEAR, GEORGE IS ALWAYS DOING HIS BEST.
RIGHT?

...CHEE, ARE YOU STILL ANGRY BECAUSE OF MY TESTS RESULTS?
<RANK 6> <USHIROMIYA JESSICA>
HE'S REALLY SPLENDID, I WISH HE WOULD SHARE JUST A BIT OF IT WITH OUR JESSICA.
<RANK 10> <USHIROMIYA NATSUHI>
SO RIGHT! I KNEW EVA OBA-SAN WOULD UNDERSTAND ME--
MY, ISN'T IT CHARMING? ISN'T IT? THOSE TIMES WHEN THE WOMEN HAD TO FEIGN CHASTITY JUST TO BE ALLOWED TO EAT BY THE MEN IS OVER ALREADY.
MY SINGLE DAUGHTER WHO WILL CARRY THE FAMILY CREST OF THE USHIROMIYA CAN'T BE SO SHAMEFUL
WELL, WELL. JESSICA, SHOULDN'T YOU LEARN TO BE A BIT MORE GRACIOUS WITH YOUR SPEECH, NOT TO SPEAK OF YOUR STUDIES...?

THANKS, I'M FINE.
ARE YOU ALRIGHT? NATSUHI OBA-SAN, YOU DON'T LOOK WELL
... TODAY, MY HEADACHE IS SPECIALLY BAD...
----- KH
...BUT THE YEARS REALLY GO BY FAST
IT FEELS LIKE THOSE DAYS YOU PLAYED AROUND USING SHORTS WERE JUST YESTERDAY...
JESSICA-CHAN IS ALSO THE SAME, DON'T YOU THINK?
AFTER ALL, NOW SHE'S ALREADY A LADY WHO WORRIES ABOUT MAKE-UP, AND I THINK CARING ABOUT THE EYEBROWS IS VERY CUTE.

DON'T BE LIKE THAT, NATSUHI NEE-SAN, YOU SHOULD HAVE NOTICED AT LEAST THAT.
JESSICA-CHAN PROBABLY WANTED HER MOTHER TO BE THE VERY FIRST ONE TO NOTICE IT.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH ...!
IT'S ALRIGHT, THAT PERSON DOESN'T NOTICE THOSE THINGS AT ALL...
JESSICA, I CANNOT ADMIRE YOU CALLING YOUR OWN MOTHER AS 'THAT PERSON', APOLOGIZE TO HER.
...I'LL HAVE A GOOD TALK WITH HER ABOUT HER SPEECH LATER.
.....

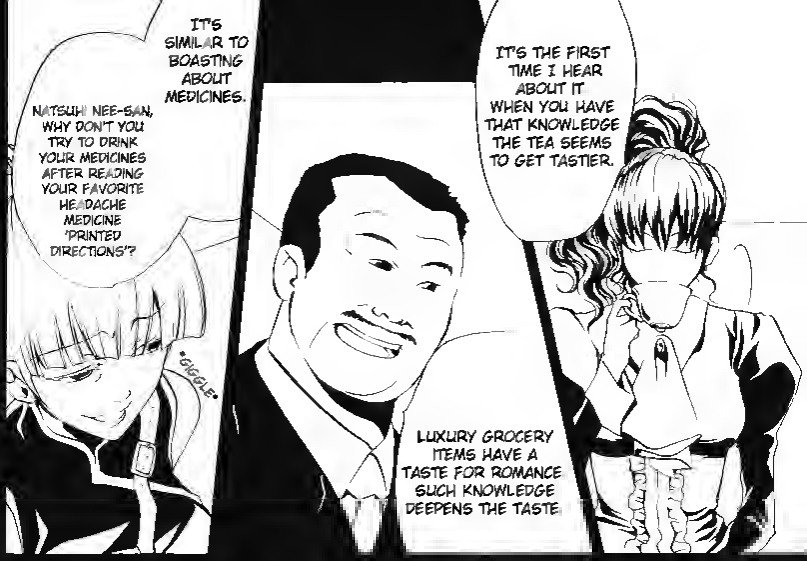
JESSICA ...!
CHEE .. IF THE LITTLE CHILD HERE IS BOTHERING YOU, PLEASE GO AHEAD AND SAY IT, THE ATMOSPHERE IN THIS PLACE IS HEAVY.
!
EXCUSE -ME ... KYA ...!
AH, SHANNON, I DON'T WANT MY SHARE OF THE TEA, I'LL GO TAKE A WALK IN THE GARDEN!
O-... OJOU -SAMA ...
SHANNON, THE TEA WILL GET COLD!
HURRY UP WITH THE SETTING OF THE TABLE!
Y-... YES...

SPOIL THE MOOD ...?
CLING
DID I...
I'M... I'M VERY SORRY...
CLANG
CLING
GIGGLE

SFX: HEARTBEAT
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
STOP IT...
IT'S SUFFO-CATING ...
CAN'T STOP IT...
PLEASE ...!
MUST NOT MAKE MISTAKES
SOME-ONE ...!
SFX:*BIG HEARTBEART*

UHM!
WHAT A NICE AROMA! WHAT KIND OF BLACK TEA WOULD IT BE?
EH... LET ME SEE... THI IS ...
THIS FRAGRANCE IS PECULIAR, I KNOW IT ...!
NO, DON'T SAY IT, I'LL GUESS IT RIGHT!

HA HA HA HA HA.
PROBABLY IT IS, WHEN YOU GO BACK TO THE KITCHEN, PLEASE TAKE A LOOK INSIDE THE TEA CAN!
... WOULD IT BE... EARL GREY?
I THINK SO... I GUESS.
THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO TOOK CARE OF ME WHO KNOW A LOT ABOUT BLACK TEA AND WHILE LISTENING TO THEIR LESSONS I'VE GOT TO KNOW A BIT MORE!
HOU, GEORGE-KUN REALLY KNOWS ABOUT BLACK TEA, HUH?
BY THE WAY, THIS AROMA DOESN'T COME FROM THE TEA LEAVES, IT SEEMS IT'S FROM A FRUIT CALLED BERGAMOT.
I HEAR THERE WAS A COUNT NAMED GREY IN ENGLAND
AND IT SEEMS THAT WAS A NAME GIVEN AFTER HIM.


IT'S SIMILAR TO BOASTING ABOUT MEDICINES.
NATSUHI NEE-SAN, WHY DON'T YOU TRY TO DRINK YOUR MEDICINES AFTER READING YOUR FAVORITE HEADACHE MEDICINE 'PRINTED DIRECTIONS'?
"GIGGLE"
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I HEAR ABOUT IT WHEN YOU HAVE THAT KNOWLEDGE THE TEA SEEMS TO GET TASTIER.
LUXURY GROCERY ITEMS HAVE A TASTE FOR ROMANCE SUCH KNOWLEDGE DEEPENS THE TASTE.

THAT WAS BERGAMOT IF THERE'S STILL SOME TEA REMAINING AFTER YOU SERVE EVERYBODY, YOU SHOULD TRY PUTTING SOME MILK AND DRINKING IT!
ハッ!

SHANNON-CHAN, DIDN'T IT HAVE SOMETHING LIKE ORANGE PEEL INSIDE THE POT?
AH, YES, IT DID.

HE DID IT FOR ME ...?
... AH
THANK YOU VERY MUCH...
!
COULD IT BE THAT
GEORGE NII-SAN ALWAYS COMES OUT FOR A TIMELY HELP AT THESE TIMES.

HE KIND OF SMOOTHLY CHANGES THE TOPIC TO HELP.
...
THINKING BACK, I FEEL LIKE THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME I WAS SAVED LIKE THIS.
READING THAT KIND OF MOOD IS HIS STRONGEST POINT
WELL, THIS MIGHT BE HIS AESTHETICS, STRANGELY, HE ALSO HAS A SNOBBY SIDE!
!
THA... THAT'S NOT TRUE ...
I THINK HE IS A WONDERFUL PERSON!

!!
HMMMM~~~ DON'T YOU TELL ME THAT YOU FELL IN LOVE WITH GEORGE NII-SAN ...
NO ... I MEAN ...
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT... I GUESS...
I SEE, WE DON'T HEAR FRIVOLOUS STUFF ABOUT GEORGE NII-SAN ...
HUH? IF I REMEMBER, I GUESS HE SAID HE WAS INTO FAMILY-ORIENTED GIRLS, DIDN'T HE?
THAT'S JUST YOUR TYPE, SHANNON!
T-THA- ... THAT'S ... I'M NOT QUALIFIED FOR THAT !
IT SEEMS YOU ARE MORE AND MORE STARTING TO BECOME AWARE YOU ARE IN A NATURAL RELATIONSHIP WHERE YOU DON'T EVEN NOTICE YOU'RE ALREADY A COUPLE.
YOU ARE, YOU HEAR? YOU'VE BEEN MEETING EACH OTHER FOR MANY YEARS ALREADY, SO YOU'RE LIKE CHILDHOOD FRIENDS.

GEORGE NII-SAN!
GRANDFATHER HAS FINALLY COME DOWN.
WHAT ARE YOU TAKING ABOUT SO EXCITEDLY?
OH?
DON'T SAY THAT.
SNEAKED AWAY WOULD BE THE CORRECT TERM I'D RATHER KISS THE ANGEL OF DEATH INSTEAD OF STAYING THERE WORSHIPPING GRANDFATHER'S FACE.
AFTER THAT, IT TURNED INTO AN ADULT TALK AND I WAS DRIVEN AWAY.
AT ANY RATE, THIS TIME WE ARE NOT AT A FAMILY MEETING
THEY'VE COME WANTING TO BORROW MONEY FOR A PROJECT.
...MAYBE IT'S GRANDFATHER WHO THINKS OF US AS ANGELS OF DEATH.

...TO TELL THE TRUTH, I'D LIKE THEM TO LET ME WATCH IT FROM THE SIDELINES AND LEARN FROM IT. BUT I WAS DRIVEN AWAY, UNFORTUNATELY.
WHEN YOU LEND MONEY, YOU MUST HAVE A CONVERSATION. OF COURSE MY FATHER CAME WITH THE PLAN OF REPAYING THE DEBT
MY PARENTS ARE STINGY AS WELL. THEY MUST HAVE SO MUCH MONEY THEY SHOULD JUST LEND IT OUT OF GENEROSITY
SHE MOST PROBABLY DON'T WANT TO SHOW GEORGE-SAMA, HER SON, SUCH SITUATION...
...
EVEN NOW... IT SEEMS THE MASTER STILL SCOLDS KALISS-SAMA AND EVA-SAMA LIKE WHEN THEY WERE CHILDREN.

UUUHM ...!
ARE DUTIES OF THE CHILDREN... I GUESS...
THAT'S RIGHT... TO SENSE THAT AND GET AWAY...
LEAVING THAT ASIDE, THE FLOWERS OF THIS GARDEN ARE REALLY PRETTY!
AH...
AGAIN.
THE ATMOS-PHERE ...

CHANGED
I WONDER WHY I DID NOT NOTICE IT UNTIL NOW...
EXCUSE ME... GEORGE -SAMA...
HM?
... WHAT SHOULD I DO?
I'D LIKE ... TO THANK YOU...
FOR JUST NOW...

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING TO BE THANKED FOR, YOU KNOW?
I CAN'T STOP...
MY HEART ...
WHAA?
THIS IS HIS SNOBBY SIDE, YOU SEE---?
N... NO, THAT'S NOT...

WHA... WHAT IS IT, OUT OF THE BLUE...
SO, GEORGE NII-SAN, DID YOU ALREADY FIND A GIRLFRIEND?
THAT'S RIGHT!
SFX "HEARTBEAT"
HEH!
GEORGE NII-SAN, IF YOU LIKE, YOU SEE ...
EVEN IF YOU ARE GOOD WITH THE STUDIES, AT THIS ASPECT, ARE YOU COMPLETELY NO GOOD""?
AT THIS RATE, IN THE FUTURE, WHEN YOU FIND YOUR PORCIOUS PARTNER, WILL YOU BE ABLE TO ESCORT HER?
KU... ACTING ALL HIGH AND MIGHTY, YOU...

O... OJOU SAMA!!
WHY DON'T YOU TRY AND HAVE A PRACTICE ON DATES FOR A DAY WITH SHANNON?
!!
N... NO, NO, THAT'S NOT TRUE, I-I-I DON'T HAVE ANY RELATIONSHIP WITH A MAN. ER... I'M JUST A SERVANT...
THA... THAT'S A CHARMING PROPOSAL... BUT... SHANNON-CHAN... WOULD FEEL BAD FOR THAT... WOULDN'T IT...
SUCH A CUTE GIRL LIKE HER WOULD NEVER BE SINGLE...
GEORGE?
O.. OJOU -SAMA...
YOU TWO, YOUR REACTION IS SO GOOD!
AHA HA HA HA HA

MOM!! SORRY... I DID NOT NOTICE...!
EVA-SAMA ...! I'M EXTREMELY SORRY...
IT'S BEEN A WHILE I'M CALLING FOR YOU, YOU KNOW? ARE YOU NOT HEARING?
WE'LL TALK ABOUT YOU WITH YOUR GRANDFATHER, SO COME.
THE TALK OF YOUR FATHER IS OVER.

... !! COULD IT BE... ABOUT ...
IT'S ABOUT THE OMIAI, YOU KNOW?
AH ...
YES.
WHAT WILL BE THE DIRECTION SHANNON'S FEELINGS WILL TAKE ---!?

Credits

WTDND Group

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Typesetting: NabikiAsakura

http://wtdnd.honya-ch.com/

'THE HEAD OF THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY, USHIROMIYA KINZO, INVOKED A WITCH AT THE END OF HIS DEMON SUMMONING RITUAL.
AND WAS AWARDED WITH 10T OF GOLD IN EXCHANGE FOR HIS SOUL.
THAT WITCH WAS THE RULER OF THE NIGHT OF ROKKEN-JIMA...
AND HER NAME WAS
...
THE ORIGINS OF THE PROSPERITY OF THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY WAS -------.... THE WITCH!?

CHAPTER 3:
[WITCH]

Original Work - Supervision
Ryuukishi07
Art
Suzuki Jirou

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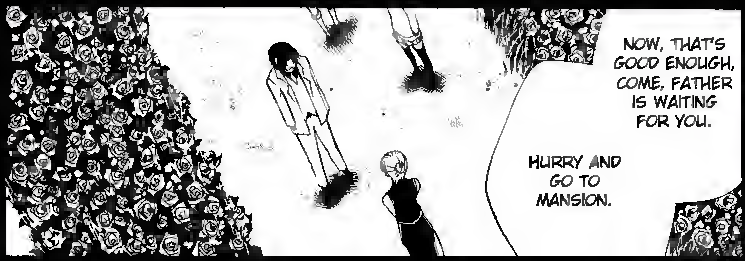
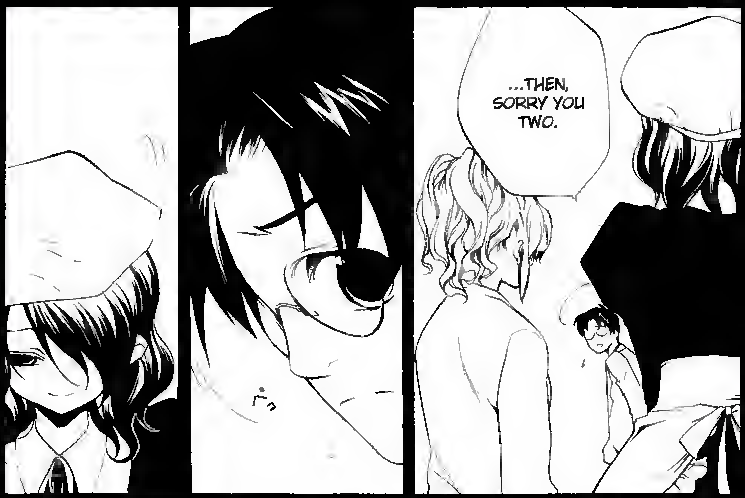
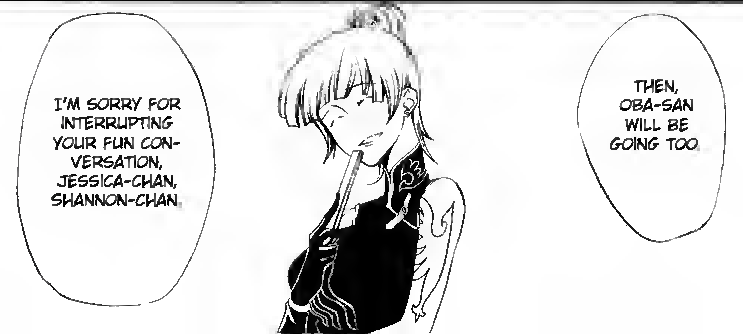
あ
...OMIA!...

SHOULDN'T WE LEAVE THIS OMIAI FOR AFTER I'M MORE MATURE?!
I DIDN'T EVEN COME TO REALIZE I'VE BECOME AN ADULT YET...!
GEORGE -SAMA WILL ..
------KH
...
OF COURSE I DO NOT INTEND TO HASTEN THINGS WITH AN IMMEDIATE BETROTHAL OR MARRIAGE, YOU KNOW? AFTER YOU DEEPEN YOUR FRIENDSHIP AND SETTLE DOWN A BIT WITH THE YEARS, YOU'LL BE READY TO BRING HER INTO THE FAMILY REGISTER.
YOU DON'T CHOOSE A PERSON ONLY BECAUSE OF YOUR FEELINGS, YOU CHOOSE SOMEONE WITH A SOLID BACKGROUND AND AFTER THAT YOU START TO BUILD THE LOVE, DOING THAT IS NOT WRONG AT ALL.
MARRIAGE, YOU KNOW, IS NOT SOMETHING YOU HOLD AFTER FALLING IN LOVE. . AFTER YOU MARRY, YOU GROW ACCUSTOMED TO IT, ALRIGHT?

AND IT DOES NOT MAKE SENSE TO MARRY WITH ANYONE JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE IN LOVE, TOO
EVEN SO, I DON'T THINK IT MAKES SENSE TO MARRY SOMEONE YOU'RE NOT IN LOVE
THE MARRIAGE IS JUST A MOMENT------ BUT WHAT COMES AFTER IS A VERY LONG LIFE AS A COUPLE... SO, WE MUST SEARCH FOR OUR PARTNERS WITH PRUDENCE.
AND DON'T YOU THINK THAT YOUR MOTHER CAN MAKE THAT CHOICE BETTER THAN YOU, WHO IS SO INEXPERIENCED?
MA... MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT, BUT ...
WELL...
NEVER, BUT...
DID I EVER DO SOMETHING WHICH WAS NOT FOR YOUR OWN GOOD.. EVEN ONCE?
YOU ARE MY ONLY SON, A SON TAKE PRIDE OF -------
AND ALSO, YOU'RE THE ONLY GRANDSON TO CARRY FATHER'S BLOOD. YOUR MOTHER WILL FIND A REALLY WONDERFUL WOMAN, ONE APPROPRIATE FOR YOU.


NOW, THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH, COME. FATHER IS WAITING FOR YOU.
HURRY AND GO TO MANSION.


...THEN, SORRY YOU TWO.


I'M SORRY FOR INTERRUPTING YOUR FUN CONVERSATION, JESSICA-CHAN, SHANNON-CHAN.
THEN, OBA-SAN WILL BE GOING TOO.

N.. NO, NO, DON'T MIND US, PLEASE.
THEN, SHANNON, WE SHOULD GO TOO.
Y...YES.
I HOPE JESSICA-CHAN CAN MEET SOMEONE WONDERFUL SOON, TOO...!
YOU WILL FIND, I'M SURE OF IT.. A WONDERFUL PERSON SUITED FOR YOU
SOMEONE LIKE ME, HAHA... WOULD BE A MAN WITH BAD GRADES?
THAT'D BE KINDA ANNOYING, AHAHA..!
OF COURSE, THAT GOES FOR SHANNON-CHAN AS WELL...!
I'M SURE A WONDERFUL MAN, SUITED FOR YOU, WILL APPEAR.
YE... YES..!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH...
?

I'M SURE YOU WILL FIND A PARTNER... THAT'S EXACTLY LIKE YOU, A SERVANT.
YOU FORGET THE FAVOR OF BEING ALLOWED TO RECEIVE COMPULSORY EDUCATION...
KNOW YOUR PLACE.

GEORGE CARRIES FATHER'S BLOOD ------
HE MIGHT ONE DAY CARRY THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY UPON HIS SHOULDERS. IN ORDER TO LIVE UP TO THOT EXPECTATION, HE STUDIES A LOT AND OBTAINS WONDERFUL GRADES
AN UNEDUCATED, INCOMPETENT, UNQUALIFIED AND UNREFINED SERVANT BEING FIT FOR GEORGE.
DO YOU SERIOUSLY BELIEVE IT?

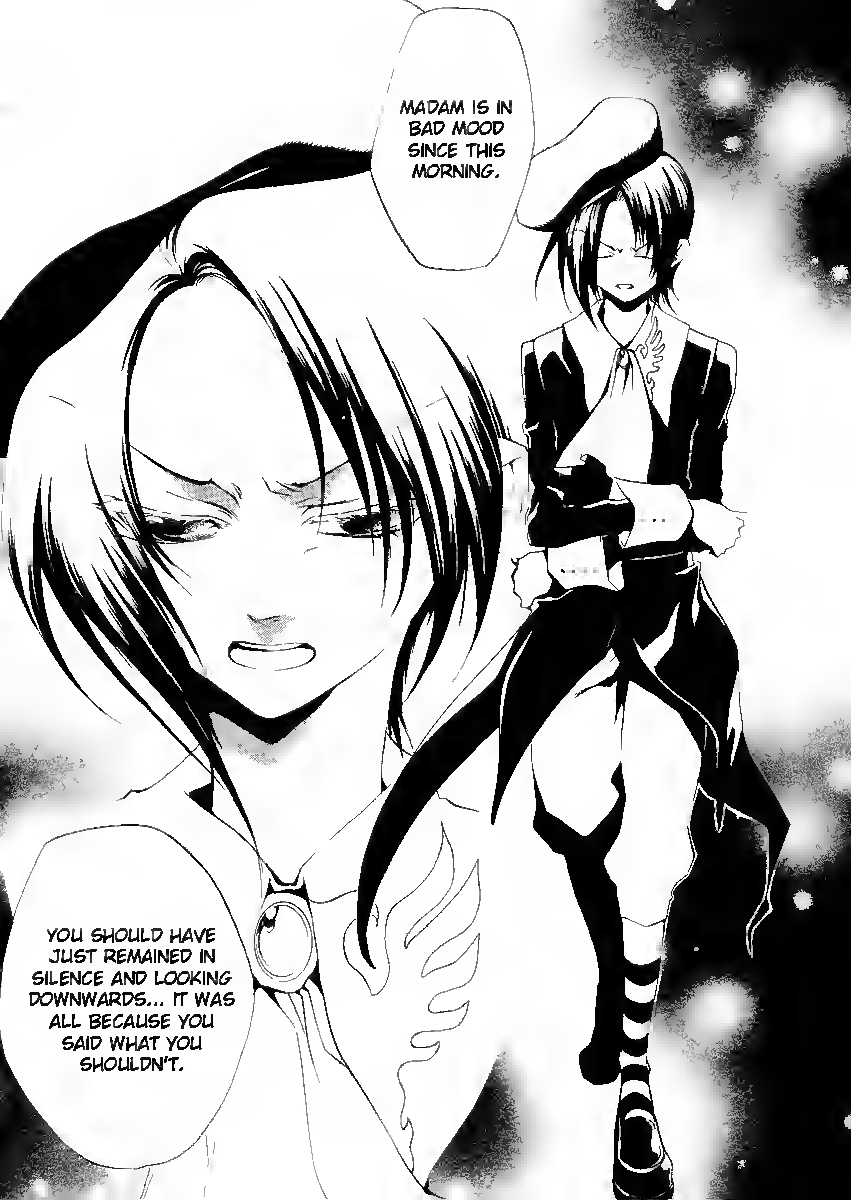
PAT
I... I DO NOT...
GRINNING
HAVE... SUCH... INTENTIONS...
DON'T WORRY, I'M SURE YOU'LL FIND A PARTNER WHO IS 'EXACTLY LIKE' YOU.... RIGHT?

I'M... FURNITURE
SO, I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR JUST BEING TREATED LIKE A PERSON...
I HAD FORGOTTEN...
I SHOULD NOT WISH FOR ANYTHING BEYOND THAT...
BUT...
...NON

SHANNON.
YOU'VE BEEN SPACING OUT FOR A WHILE.
ARE YOU NOT FEELING WELL?
N... NO, I'M VERY SORRY..
.. VERY SOON, THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY AND MY HUSBAND WILL BE COMING BACK.
ARE YOU DONE WITH THE CLEANING OF THE STUDY? AND THE CLEANING OF THE STAIRS?
I'M... I'M VERY SORRY... NOT YET...

EEH, I KNOW IT, THAT'S WHY I HAD RUON TAKE CARE OF IT.
WHILE YOU WERE LAZING AROUND, SHE QUICKLY FINISHED IT.
THAT'S... MEAN...
IF I MAKE THE CLEANING CAREFULLY... IT ENDS UP TAKING TIME TO...
カツ
カツ
YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO EAT OR REST UNTIL YOU FINISH THAT.
THEN, TAKE AS MUCH CARE AS YOU LIKE WITH THE CLEANING. AND I ORDER YOU TO CLEAN THE RECEPTION HALL AS WELL.
YOU WILL CLEAN IT UNTIL YOU UNDERSTAND, WITHOUT LEAVING ONE SINGLE PIECE OF DUST.

I'M ...
SUCH AN IDIOT.
"IF GEORGE-SAMA WERE HERE FOR ME ..."
EVEN AFTER THIS, I THINK OF SUCH THINGS AGAIN.
... NEE-SAN, YOU'RE CLUMSY AS ALWAYS.


MADAM IS IN BAD MOOD SINCE THIS MORNING.
YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST REMAINED IN SILENCE AND LOOKING DOWNWARDS... IT WAS ALL BECAUSE YOU SAID WHAT YOU SHOULDN'T.

KANON-KUN...
MADAM... AND RUON TOO, MAY THE TWO OF THEM FALL TO HELL.
THAT WOMAN KNOWS WHERE MADAM CHECKS THINGS AND ONLY CLEANS THERE.
SHE DOESN'T CLEAN ANYTHING IN ITS TRUE SENSE... SHE'S A DAMNED BASTARD WHO'S ONLY A PARASITE ON NEE-SAN, WHO IS ALWAYS SO DILIGENT IN THE CLEANING.
.....
YOU MUST NOT USE THOSE FILTHY WORDS..

HUM...
THOSE FILTHY WORDS WILL END UP DIRTYING KANON-KUN'S BEAUTIFUL HEART..
SO, AT LEAST IN FRONT OF ME, DO NOT USE SUCH SPEECH... RIGHT?
... THIS IS A FILTHY WORK.. MY SOUL... IS STAINED SINCE LONG AGO.
---- TO CLEAN THE WHOLE RECEPTION HALL WILL BE THOUGH
THANKS ... BUT, I CAN DO IT ALONE.
I'LL HELP YOU TOO.
KANON-KUN ALSO HAS WORK OF HIS OWN TO DO, RIGHT?

JUST BY YOU TELLING ME YOU WANT TO HELP ME... IS ENOUGH FOR ME.
IF EVEN KANON-KUN WERE TO RECEIVE A PUNISHMENT... I WOULD BE SAD.
.....
------- I GOT IT, NEE-SAN, DO YOUR BEST TOO
YEAH...

PLEASE, LISTEN TO MY FOOLISH STORY...

BEATRICE -SAMA
. . .
----CERTAINLY, AS EVA-SAMA SAID, I AM AN INCOMPETENT AND UNREFINED FURNITURE
. . .

I AM NOT A PERSON.
SO, I MAY NOT BE QUALIFIED TO FALL IN LOVE ...
BUT
IN THAT CASE,
WHY WAS I GIVEN A HEART CAPABLE OF KNOWING LOVE...?

A REAL FURNITURE... HAS NO HEART.. SO, IT DOESN'T NEED TO FEEL LOVE FOR PEOPLE...
SO, IT WON'T SUFFER.. AND EVEN THOUGH I'M A FURNITURE AS WELL..
IF I AM TO SUFFER AND FEEL SO MUCH PAIN.
I WISH I HAD NOT BEEN GIVEN... THIS HEART...!!
WHY DO I EVEN... HAVE A HEART...

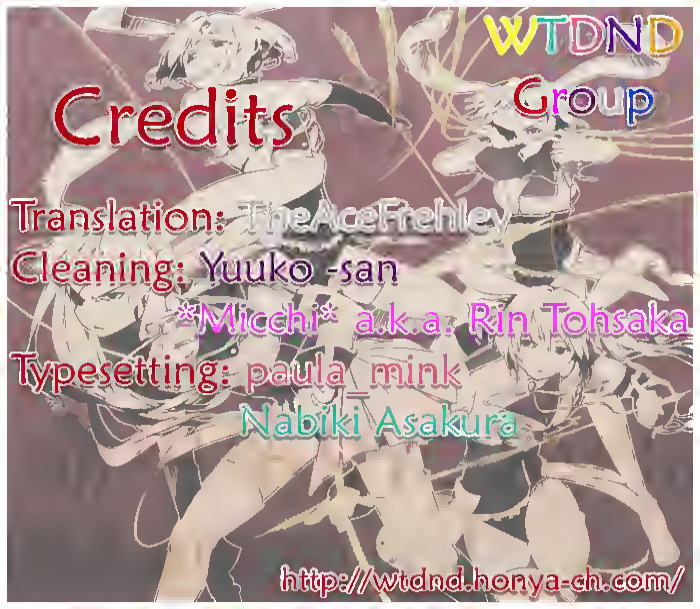
----- I SEE
SO, A FURNITURE WAS GIVEN A HEART.
SOMETIMES, ONE CAN MAKE SOMETHING PLEASANT WITH THAT AS WELL...

SINCE BEFORE THE CHRISTIAN ERA, HUMANS HAVE BEEN CONSTANTLY IN PURSUIT OF THE ELEMENTS THAT CONTITUTE THE WORLD.
EH...?
THE ANCIENT GREEKS TRIED TO EXPLAIN THE WORLD WITH THE FOUR ELEMENTS: WIND, FIRE, WATER AND EARTH.

AFTER THAT, THOUSANDS OF YEARS WENT BY AND THE HUMANS ADDED MANY ELEMENTS TO THE ORIGINAL FOUR AND TRIED TO EXPLAIN THE WORLD WITH A DIVERSITY OF INTERPRETATIONS.
BUT THEY COULDN'T EXPLAIN THE 'SINGLE ELEMENT', THE ONLY TRUTH.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT IS?
ゴゴゴゴ…
---- HOWEVER, A MAN WHO APPEARED THROUGH THE GUIDANCE OF A STAR, FINALLY EXPLAINED THE SINGLE ELEMENT THAT CONSTITUTES THE WORLD..

... IT IS 'LOVE'. KUU KU-KUKUKU-KUKU...!

THE WITCH ..... REALLY EXISTED!?
BEATRICE-SAMA .....
... BE...
※ 次号は休載いたします
12月号に続く 11月18日火曜発売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NO WAY ...
COULD IT BE THAT ...
-THE WITCH OF THE PORTRAIT, BEATRICE, IS JUST BEFORE HER EYES!!-
BEATRICE ... SAMA ...
SUCH A THING WOULD ...

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THIS IS NOT ANY DREAM...
...NO
THIS OVERWHELMING...
EVEN AFTER ATHOUSAND YEARS, THE FACE PEOPLE MAKE UPON FIRSTLY LOOKING AT ME DOESN'T CHANGE...
PRESENCE...

WHAT AFLICTS YOU IS CAUSED BY LOVE
...
IN OTHER WORDS, THE SINGLE ELEMENT OF THE WORLD.
TO NOT HAVE IT FULFILLED IS THE SAME AS TO NOT HAVE THE WORLD FULFILLED. THE ORIGINAL SIN THAT IS THE FOUNDATION OF THE HUMANS AND CONSTITUTES EVERYTHING
WHAT ADAM AND EVE, WHO TASTED THE FRUIT OF THE KNOWLEDGE, LEARNED WAS LOVE
...
UPON KNOWING THAT, PEOPLE WERE BANISHED FROM PARADISE AND BECAME JUST 'PEOPLE'
NOW THAT YOU MANAGED TO LEARN THAT, YOU ARE NO FURNITURE ANYMORE,
IN OTHER WORDS, THEY ARE PEOPLE BECAUSE THE KNOW LOVE AND SUFFER

YOU, GIRL OF A GENTLE HEART, YOU CAN BE PROUD
AT THIS VERY MOMENT, YOU'RE ALREADY A 'HUMAN'

I SHALL RECOGNIZE THAT OVER MY NAME
...

LET'S TALK, IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE TALKED WITH A HUMAN ... FORGIVE ME FOR MY OVER-TALKATIVENESS.
I GUESS IT'S HARD FOR AN ORDINARY PERSON TO UNDESTAND IT, WELL, FINE... KUUKUUKU
...?
SPEAKING OF APOLOGIES ...
WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO MAKE YOUR DESIRE COME TRUE WITH MY POWER?
... EH...?

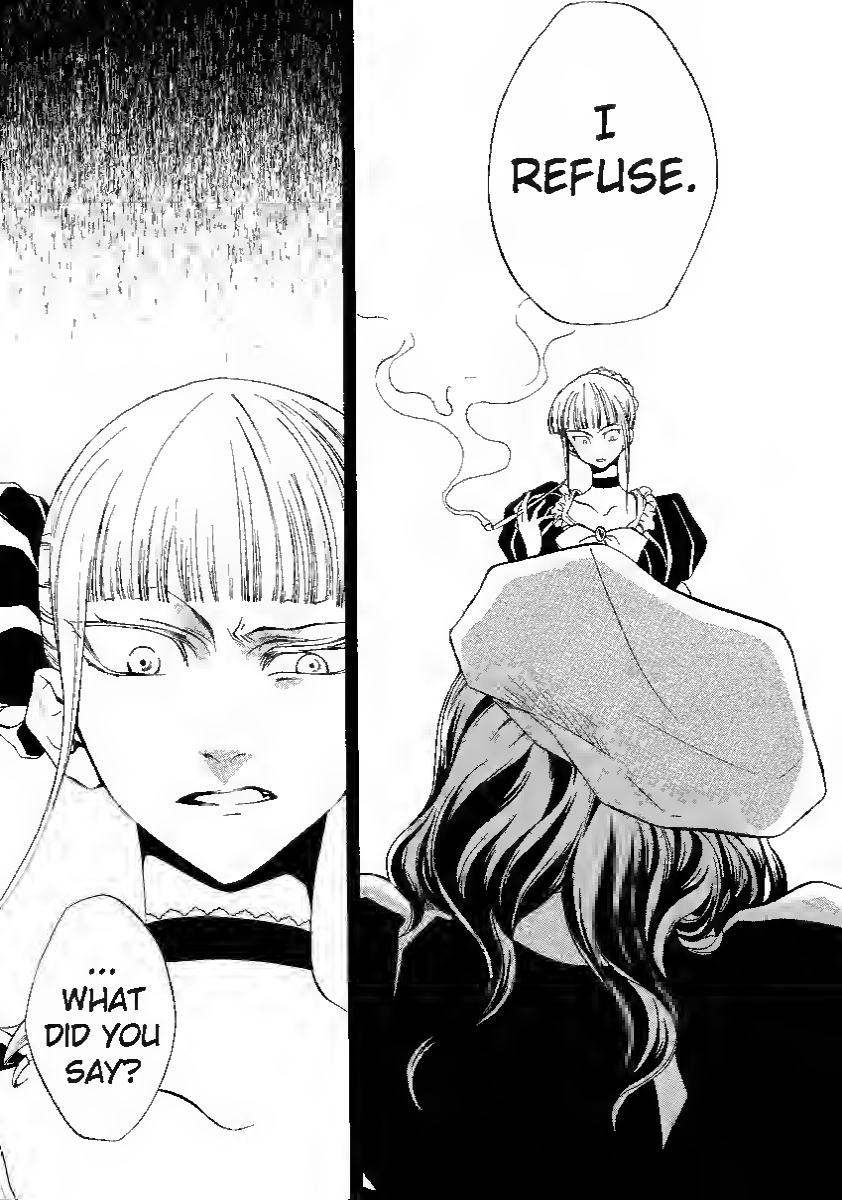
REALLY ...?
RE ...
I'M TELLING YOU THAT 'I CAN BRING YOU TOGETHER WITH YOUR DEAR PERSON, HAPPY FOREVER'.
I MUST NOT LET HER PIERCE THROUGH THE GAPS IN MY HEART ...
NO!! SHE IS A 'WITCH' ...

I'M ... I'M SORRY ...!
THAT'S THE SAME FOR HUMANS, RIGHT?
CERTAINLY, I'M NOT THAT FAR FROM THE IMAGE OF THE WITCH YOU PEOPLE DETEST
---- BUT, I RETURN THE FAVORS TO PEOPLE WHO SHOW RESPECT.
---- FEAR IS ALSO A FORM OF SHOWING RESPECT ... IT IS PLEASANT, BUT WE WON'T MAKE PROGRESS LIKE THIS.
I'M VERY SORRY FOR THIS ...
AT THIS VERY MOMENT, YOU'RE ALREADY A 'HUMAN' ...
YOU ARE NO FURNITURE ANYMORE
I DID NOT ... INTEND TO ...
IT'S THE TRUTH. THINK OF IT AS MY GRATITUDE TO YOU WHO, DAY AFTER DAY, POLISHED MY PORTRAIT DILIGENTLY.
WHAT YOU... HAD... SAID EARLIER... COULD THAT BE TRUE ...

HOWEVER, I HAVE ONLY ONE REQUEST ...
RELAX, I WON'T ASK FOR A COMPENSATION I AM GENEROUS
HEARTBEAT

KH
DID YOU KNOW THAT A VERY SMALL SHRINE HAS BEEN BUILT ON THE SEA AROUND THIS ISLAND, IN FRONT OF THE CLIFFS?
I'D LIKE YOU TO BREAK A 'MIRROR' STORED INSIDE THAT SHRINE.
THAT MIRROR'S POWER OPPOSES MY POWER
...
AND I CAN'T DEAL WITH THAT.

DO YOU UNDERSTAND? IF YOU TAKE YOUR TIME TO SMASH THAT ANNOYING MIRROR FOR ME, AS A REWARD FOR THAT,
I'LL MAKE YOU WISH COME TRUE.
TODAY, I'M IN A REALLY GOOD MOOD. IF YOU WISH, YOU COULD CHANGE YOUR WISH
AND I COULD EVEN GIVE YOU ALL THE GOLD I AWARDED KINZO WITH, HUH? KUUKUU
...
I
...


I REFUSE.
... WHAT DID YOU SAY?

IF YOU HAVE A REASON, LET ME HEAR IT... IF THERE'S ANY MISUNDERSTANDING, LET'S CLEAR IT...
.....
...THEN, IF I DO NOT BREAK THE MIRROR, EVERYTHING SHOULD CONTINUE IN PEACE FROM NOW ON AS WELL, LIKE IT'S BEEN UNTIL TODAY!
I.. I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE REASON VERY WELL
BUT
UNTIL TODAY, THIS ISLAND HAS BEEN IN PEACE AND NOTHING DID HAPPEN HERE
I'LL GUARANTEE THAT, I'LL SAY IT OVER THE NAME OF BEATRICE.
IF YOU DON'T BREAK IT, THE UNBREAKABLE DAYS SHALL CONTINUE THE SAME AS UNTIL TODAY, AND INTO TOMORROW AND AFTER TOMORROW AS WELL...
HUMU... I SEE, I SEE, YOU'RE INDEED CORRECT.

THE UNBREAKABLE DAYS SHALL CONTINUE THE SAME AS UNTIL TODAY, AND INTO TOMORROW AND AFTER TOMORROW AS WELL ...
FOREVER, FOR ETERNITY.
YOU'RE FREE TO CHOOSE TO BREAK IT OR NOT... IF YOU BREAK IT, I'LL MAKE YOUR WISH COME TRUE ...
...IF YOU DON'T, YOUR WISH ... WILL NEVER COME TRUE ... KUUKUUKU ...
PLEASE, STOP IT ... I DON'T ...
WANT TO HEAR THAT ...!!

...
IT'S NOT THAT I WANTED TO CAUSE YOU PAIN, YOU KNOW
...
OH WELL
...
IF YOU WISH TO BORROW MY POWER, YOU JUST NEED TO BREAK THAT MIRROR, AT ANY TIME. I'LL BE SURE TO KEEP MY PROMISE.

I WON'T SET A DEADLINE FOR THIS PROMISE, BUT... THERE'S A DEADLINE FOR THE MAGIC TO MAKE THE WISH COME TRUE...
THE MOMENT YOUR DEAR PERSON HAS DECIDED ON THE PARTNER HE MUST EXCHANGE VOWS OF LOVE WILL BE THE DEADLINE FOR THAT...
..I AM A WITCH, BUT I AM NOT A DEMON I DON'T HAPPEN TO HAVE A MAGIC TO TEAR APART TWO PEOPLE WHO LOVE EACH OTHER, YOU HEAR...?

IT SEEMS YOUR DEAR PERSON WILL BE ATTENDING AN OMIAI SOON, HUH?

I KNOW HIS PARTNER OF THE OMIAI.
THAT GIRL IS THE MOST APPROPRIATE IN THE WHOLE WORLD FOR USHIROMIYA GEORGE.
SHE GRADUATED FROM A GOOD SCHOOL, SHE HAD GOOD GRADES ...
フッ
MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN YOU, MORE INTELLIGENT THAN YOU,
SHE'S COMPOSED, PRUDENT ...
MORE APPRO-PRIATE THAN YOU.

HOW WOULD AN IGNORANT, INCOMPETENT AND UNREFINED GIRL LIKE YOU BE APPROPRIATE FOR HIM!?
YOU KNOW IT BETTER THAN ANYONE !!!
JUST IMAGINING YOU AND USHIROMIYA GEORGE BEING BROUGHT TOGETHER IS ALREADY A SIN!
IT'S FOOLISH !!!!!!!!
YOU'RE THE MOST INAPPRO-PRIATE FOR HIM !!!
FOOL, FOOL, KNOW YOUR PLACE !!!
HA HA HA

STOP IT!
!!
WHO ARE YOU?
...! KANON-KUN, STEP BACK...! THIS PERSON IS...

I GUESS I WENT OVERBOARD WITH MY WORDS AND ENDED UP BULLYING HER... I SHALL APOLOGIZE FOR THAT
.....
IF YOU NEED MY POWER, YOU CAN CALL ME ANY TIME ...
HOWEVER, MY PROMISE FROM EARLIER WILL REMAIN AS A REWARD FOR YOU.
DISAPPEAR !! I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE, BUT YOU ARE THREA-TENING SHANNON !!!
DO NEVER APPEAR AGAIN !!!

...
CHOOSE YOUR WORDS, YOU LOWBORN
...
I AM TOLERANT TO THOSE WHO SHOW RESPECT, BUT I AM CRUEL TO THOSE WHO DON'T.

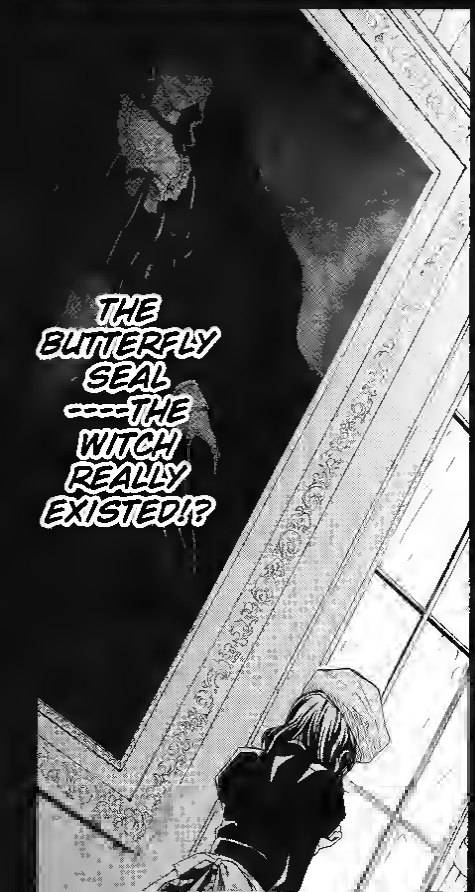
!
PLE... PLEASE STOP IT, BEATRICE -SAMA! KANON-KUN IS STILL A CHILD...!
...VERY WELL

FOR TONIGHT I'LL FORGIVE KANON AND SEND HIM OFF...
WELL, THEN, WE WILL DISPERSE FOR TONIGHT.
...I'LL LEAVE A SOUVENIR AS A FAREWELL TO YOU.

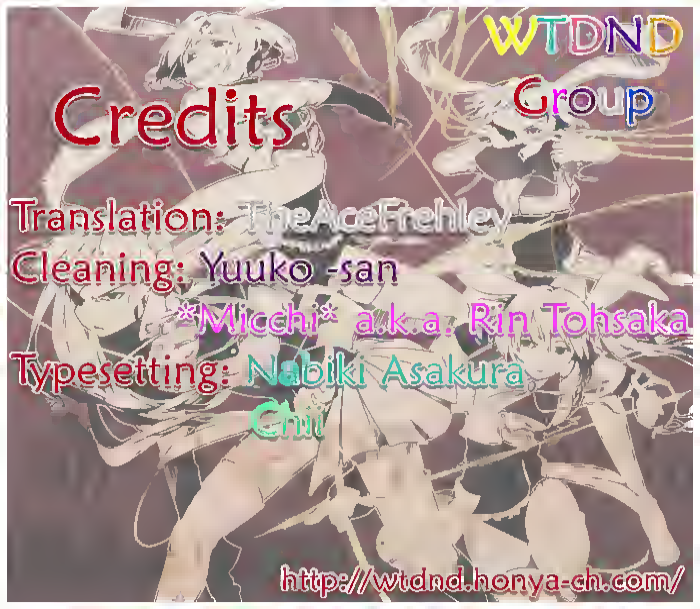
SFX: FINGER SNAP
KYA
...
!?
SFX: SWOOSH

OUCH
...
...
KH
SSHHH-
...
WHAT
IS THIS
...
...IT'S JUST A BRUISE, SO IT WILL HEAL IN A FEW DAYS.
IT IS A MARK TO NOT LET YOU FORGET THAT I CERTAINLY WAS HERE TODAY AND MADE A PROMISE WITH YOU.

THINK WELL, SHANNON.
I WON'T FORCE YOU TO ANYTHING.
YOU CAN FREELY DECIDE YOUR FUTURE BY YOUR OWN WILL ...
TO HAVE A CONVER-SATION AFTER SO LONG WAS, INDEED, REALLY FUN, YOU KNOW?
FARE-WELL, FURNI-TURES!
AHA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA



1月号に続く》12月18日木曜発売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I JUST DESIRE TO BE WITH THAT PERSON ...

AND THEN I ...

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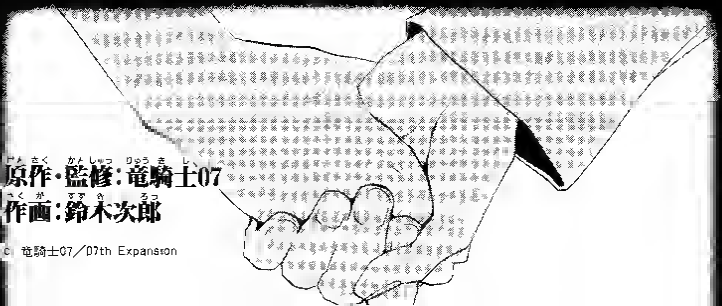
Episode2
Turn of the golden witch

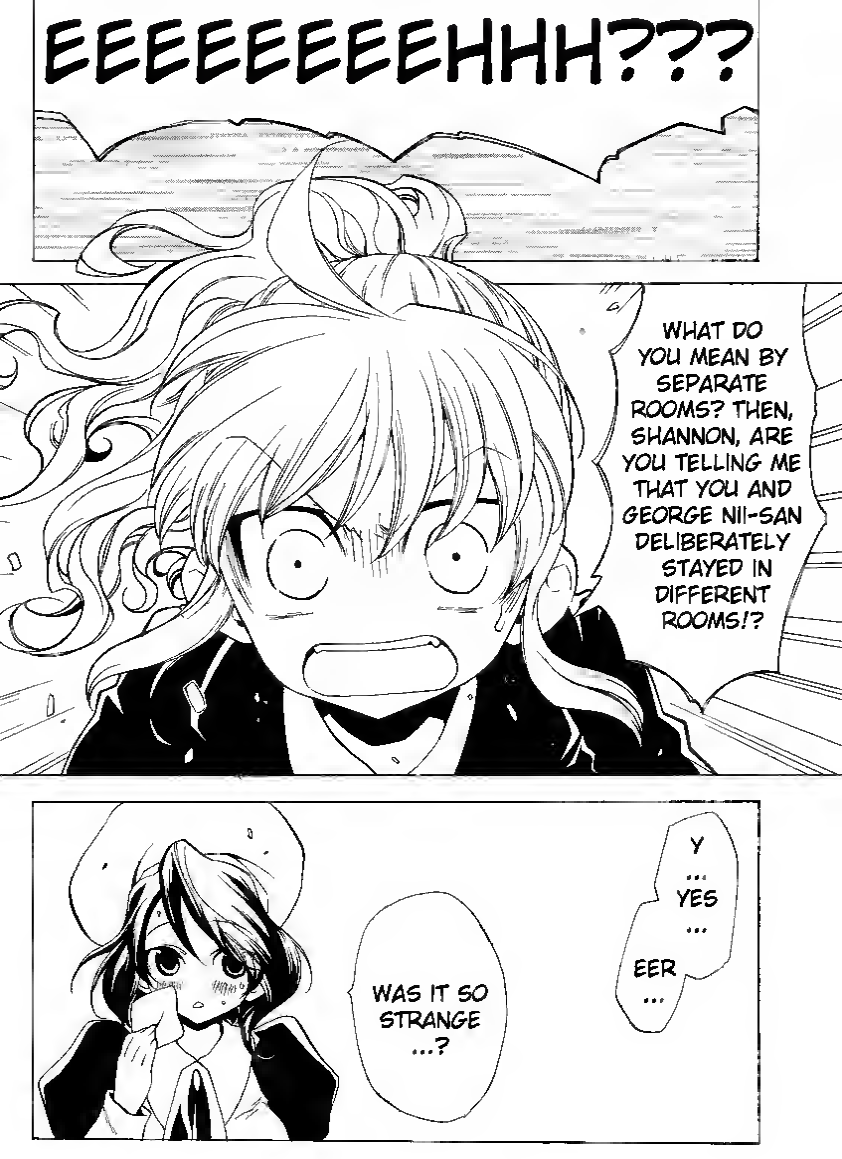


原作・監修：竜騎士07
作画：鈴木次郎

c 竜騎士07／07th Expansion

I FULFILLED THE PROMISE WITH THE WITCH AND BROKE THE MIRROR...
AND THEN-- I SCREAMED HER NAME, BEATRICE.

HM, THIS TASTES GOOD!! THE NAME IS WEIRD, THOUGH.
IS THAT SO? GOOD THAT YOU LIKED!
TN: CHINSUKOU IS THE NAME OF A SWEET FROM OKINAWA
Chinsukou
Chocolate
THEN?
I WON'T LET YO TRY TO FOOL ME WITH SOUVENIRS, YOU HEAR~~~? HOW ABOUT YOU TELL ME ABOUT YOUR TRIP?
ABOUT YOUR TRIP ALL ALONE WITH HIM TO OKINAWA!!
EH ...
EH ...


EEEEEEEEHHH???
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY SEPARATE ROOMS? THEN, SHANNON, ARE YOU TELLING ME THAT YOU AND GEORGE NII-SAN DELIBERATELY STAYED IN DIFFERENT ROOMS!?
Y ... YES ... EER ...
WAS IT SO STRANGE ...?

FOR WHAT DID YOU HAVE ALL THE TROUBLE TO GO TO OKINAWA... AND ALL ALONE WITH GEORGE NII-SAN!
IT'S, I MEAN... THERE'S A BIG AQUARIUM IN OKINAWA, AND I WAS INVITED ...
AND I... LIKE FISHES AND...
NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN, YOU KNOW!? YOU TWO, A HEALTHY COUPLE, WENT TO A TRIP AND SPENT THE NIGHT THERE, RIGHT!?
NOT TO MENTION A COUPLE SLEEPING IN SEPARATE ROOMS!?
すII
い;
IF THERE WERE NO KISSES, THEN THERE WERE NO HUGS TOO!?
AH, BUT, THERE WERE HUGS, YOU KNOW ?
GEORGE-SAN'S CHEST WAS SO WARM...
AS OF KI ... KISSES, NO COMMENTS ...
THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT!! AAH, GEEZ!
HOW COULD A COUPLE LIKE THIS EXIST!

EER... BUT, WE'RE BOTH SINGLE... GEORGE-SAN SAID THAT... IT'S GOOD MANNERS FOR A COUPLE TO HOLD THOSE THINGS BACK...
LISTEN!!!
DIDN'T YOU GO TO A TRIP AND STAYED THERE OVERNIGHT IN ORDER TO PASS THAT STAGE----!?
SHOULDN'T YOU ALREADY BE AT THE LEVEL OF HUGGING AND KISSING!?
O... OJOU-SAMA, I DON'T UNDESTAND WHAT YOU MEAN, BUT...
THAT IS, I MEAN ..
WE ARE.. DATING BUT .. IT'S.. IT'S NOT THAT WE ARE MARRIED OR ANYTHING

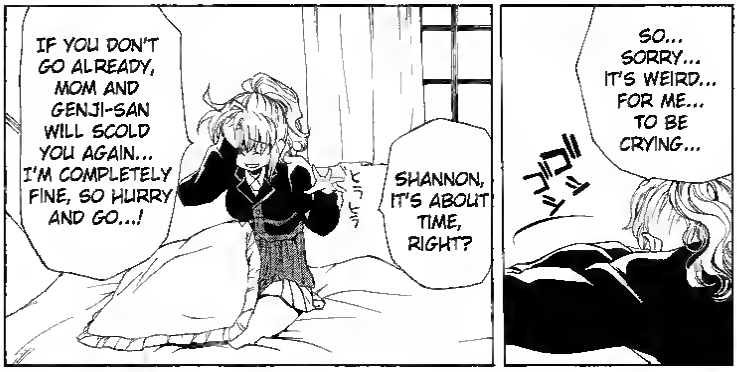
THOSE THINGS... WE HAVE TO LEAVE IT FOR AFTER WE PROPERLY MAKE OUR VOWS IN FRONT OF GOD...
THEN WE CAN DO AH...
WA WA WA WA WA WA
.....
AAH??!! I WANT A BOY-FRIEND TOO---!!! WHAT A SHAME TO HAVE SHANNON PASS AHEAD OF ME--!!
WE PROMISED WE'D FIND OUR BOY-FRIENDS TOGETHER AND, YET, YOU GOT AHEAD OF ME-----!!
MUGAAA

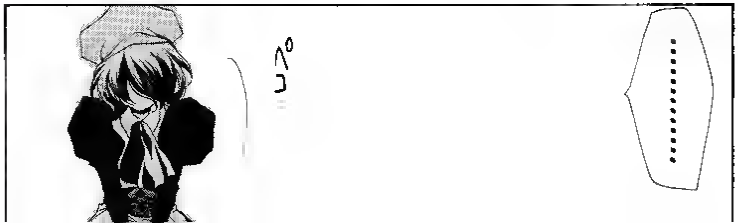
AH... ERH... OJOU-SAMA IS A WONDERFUL PERSON, SO... I'M SURE A WONDERFUL COMPANION WILL SHOW UP FOR HER...
I DON'T WANT SUCH CONSO-LATIONS!! SHANNON, YOU TRAITOR, GET OUT!!
SHUT UUUP ----!!
COUGH
OH NO ...
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
KASHUU
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
HAA
HAA

OJOU
-SAMA
...?
SHA...
SHANNON,
SAY...
HONESTLY
...

...
IS... MY HAIR... WEIRD... IS IT...?
NO WAY.
I THINK YOUR HAIR IS VERY BEAUTIFUL, OJOU-SAMA.
THEN... THEN, THEN, COULD IT BE MY EYES ARE WEIRD, OR MAYBE MY NOSE?
OR IT IS REALLY MY SPEECH THAT IS BAD...
AND, BECAUSE OF THESE, I CAN'T FIND A BOYFRIEND ...
...BUT... I'M THE ONLY ONE WITHOUT A BOYFRIEND .. SAKU AND HINA FOUND A BOYFRIEND, BUT... I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN'T FIND ONE ...
EVERYONE SAID... THEY'LL BRING THEIR BOYFRIENDS TO THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL... AND I TOO SAID... FULL OF SELF-CONFIDENCE, THAT I'D CERTAINLY FIND ONE... BEFORE THE DAY OF THE FESTIVAL
THAT'S NOT TRUE AT ALL, OJOU-SAMA IS ALREADY WONDERFUL ENOUGH THE WAY SHE IS.

I DON'T HAVE ANY BOYFRIEND... ONLY ME... ONLY ME...


IF YOU DON'T GO ALREADY, MOM AND GENJI-SAN WILL SCOLD YOU AGAIN... I'M COMPLETELY FINE, SO HURRY AND GO...!
SHANNON, IT'S ABOUT TIME, RIGHT?
SO... SORRY... IT'S WEIRD... FOR ME... TO BE CRYING...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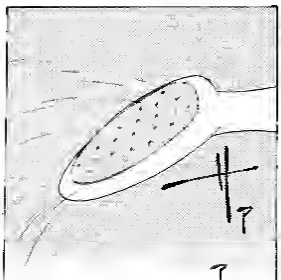
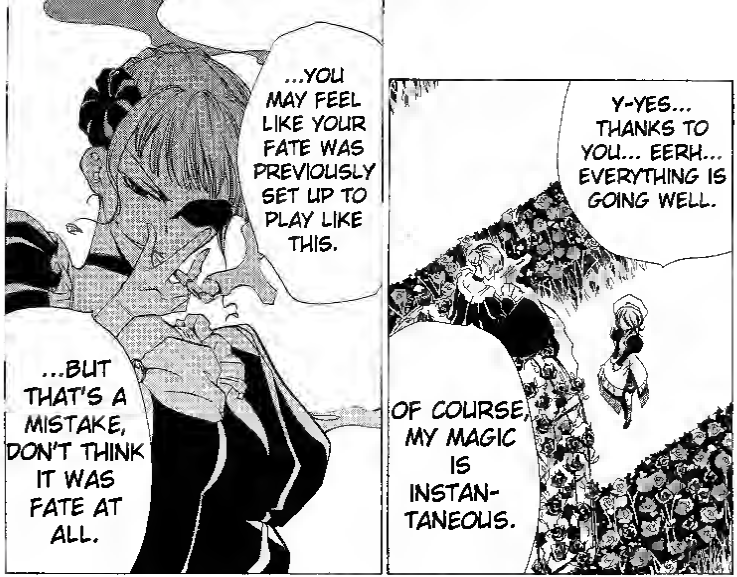
ハァ…

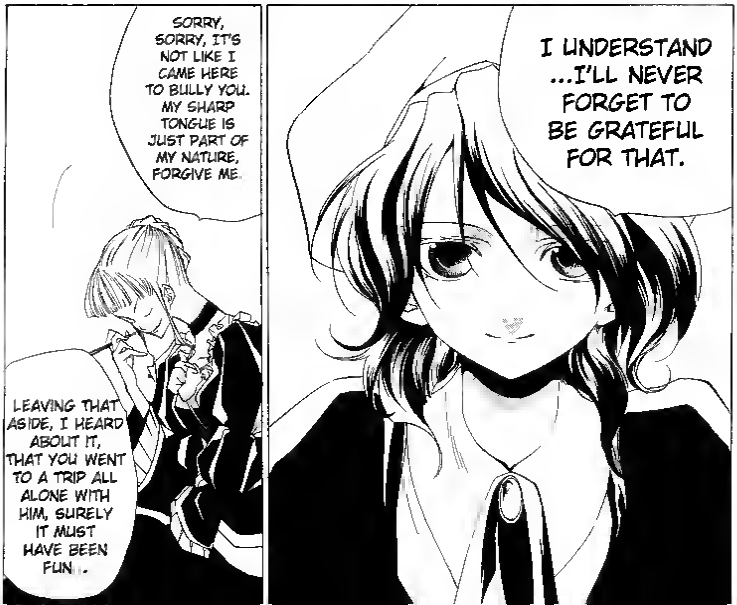
ぎゃ!!
ごろごろ

I WANT TO...
FALL IN LOVE... TOO...



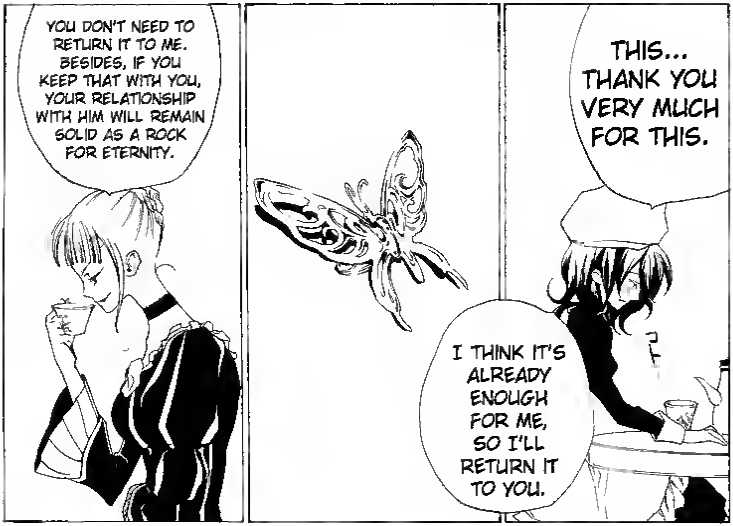
!
BE
...
BEATRICE
-SAMA
...!
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME, HOW DID IT GO? DID EVERYTHING GO WELL AFTER THAT?


...YOU MAY FEEL LIKE YOUR FATE WAS PREVIOUSLY SET UP TO PLAY LIKE THIS.
...BUT THAT'S A MISTAKE, DON'T THINK IT WAS FATE AT ALL.
Y-YES... THANKS TO YOU... EERH... EVERYTHING IS GOING WELL.
OF COURSE, MY MAGIC IS INSTAN-TANEOUS.


SORRY, SORRY, IT'S NOT LIKE I CAME HERE TO BULLY YOU. MY SHARP TONGUE IS JUST PART OF MY NATURE, FORGIVE ME.
LEAVING THAT ASIDE, I HEARD ABOUT IT, THAT YOU WENT TO A TRIP ALL ALONE WITH HIM, SURELY IT MUST HAVE BEEN FUN...
I UNDERSTAND ...I'LL NEVER FORGET TO BE GRATEFUL FOR THAT.

I BOUGHT SOME SWEETS AS SOUVENIRS DURING THE TRIP... IF YOU WANT, EERH... WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE SOME...?
THA... THAT'S RIGHT... EXCUSE-ME... BEATRICE -SAMA ...
Y... YEES, IT WAS VERY, I MEAN... IT WAS FUN ...!
HOU? SOUVENIRS FOR A WITCH?

SFX: LOTS OF NHACK NHACKS
HOHOOU, ORIENTAL COOKIES MADE WITH LARD AND WHEAT FLOUR, HUH?
WRAPPING IT UP IN CHOCOLATE IN WESTERN STYLE IS JUST LIKE A SILK ROAD OF SWEETS, BLENDING JAPAN'S AND EUROPE'S STYLES.
.....
?
GIGGLE
WHAT IS IT? DID I SAY SOMETHING FUNNY?
NO... I'M SORRY ...
EERH ...
HUMU, THIS BECAME A BANQUET... NEXT TIME I SHALL TREAT YOU TO SOME DOLCE VITA FROM NERO AS WELL ...

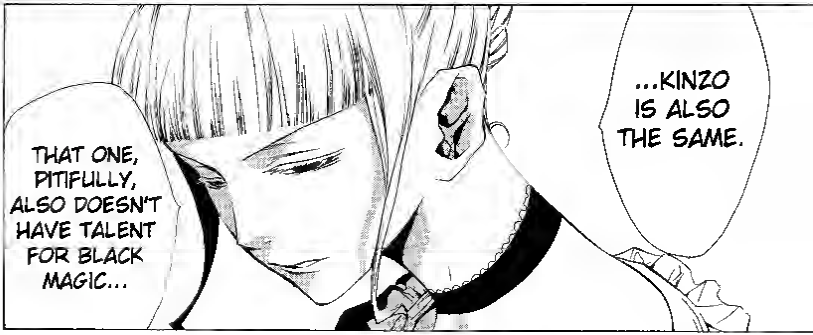

YOU DON'T NEED TO RETURN IT TO ME. BESIDES, IF YOU KEEP THAT WITH YOU, YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM WILL REMAIN SOLID AS A ROCK FOR ETERNITY.
THIS... THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THIS.
I THINK IT'S ALREADY ENOUGH FOR ME, SO I'LL RETURN IT TO YOU.

HUMU. SO LOVE AND ROSES ARE SIMILAR, HUH. TOO MUCH FERTILIZATION MAKES THE ROOTS GET ROTTEN AND WITHOUT GOING THROUGH HARDSHIPS, EVEN THE FLOWERS CAN'T RAISE THEMSELVES.
...IN THAT CASE, DO AS YOU WISH.
THAT IS A COURTESY FROM ME TO YOU. TO RECEIVE THAT BACK DOESN'T MAKE ME PLEASED EITHER...
... THE CHANCE FOR US TO MEET CERTAINLY WAS GRANTED TO US BY THE POWER OF MAGIC,
BUT I THINK THAT THE EFFORT TO MAKE THIS MEETING LAST FOREVER MUST BE CONTINUED BY THE TWO OF US.

AH... I'M... I'M VERY SORRY... I DID NOT MEAN IT THAT WAY ...
KULIKUKUKU... I'M NOT FEELING HURT OR ANYTHING... THAT BROOCH IS ALREADY YOURS.
IF YOU TREASURED IT AS PROOF OF OUR FRIENDSHIP, THAT WOULD COMFORT ME A BIT.
YOU CAN PUT IT IN A JEWEL BOX TOO. IF YOU WISH, YOU CAN GIVE IT TO ANOTHER PERSON WITH TROUBLES IN HIS LOVE'S PATHWAYS.
...I JUST HOPE YOU TREAT IT AS AN IMPORTANT THING...
SINCE LONG AGO, FOR SEVERAL TIMES, I WAS ASKED BY PEOPLE AND GRANTED THEM SUCH TOOLS, BUT, EVERY TIME,
AFTER THEY SOLVED THEIR WORRIES WITH ITS POWER, THEY STARTED TO FEEL STRANGE ABOUT IT...
THEY FORGOT EVEN THEIR FEELINGS OF GRATITUDE AND THREW IT AWAY.

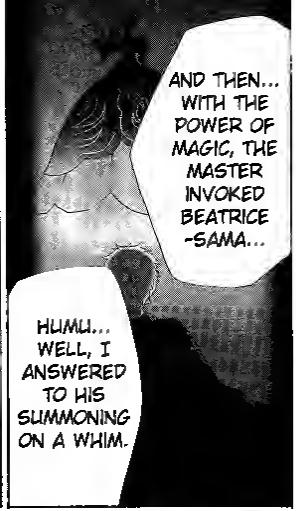
BEATRICE-SAMA...
KU KU ...
SO, IT'S VERY RARE FOR ME TO BE HONESTLY THANKED FOR MY COURTESIES ... NO, I GUESS THIS IS THE FIRST TIME.
WELL, FORGET IT, LET'S HEAR ABOUT YOUR TRIP.
YOU MUST AT LEAST HAVE HAD SOME KISSES, I BET...
BE-BEATRICE-SAMA, EVEN YOU...
THAT'S RIGHT... THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU, CAN I?
WHAT IS IT? SAY IT.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN WHEN YOU SAY THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO CAN SEE YOU AND PEOPLE WHO CAN'T, BEATRICE-SAMA?
IN FACT, THIS HAPPENED A FEW DAYS AGO...
SHANNON! ARE YOU LISTENING?
TOK TOK
NATSUHI-SAMA AND KRAUSS-SAMA CAN'T SEE YOU, BUT...

...THEN... WHAT ABOUT THE MASTER? IT SEEMS THAT HE RESEARCHES MAGIC AND THINGS LIKE THAT...
...KRAUSS AND NATSUHI, AT THAT MATTER, ARE COMPLETELY IGNORANT... THEY DON'T HAVE THE SLIGHTEST TALENT FOR BLACK MAGIC ...
THERE'S SOMETHING LIKE A WAVELENGHT THAT EACH PERSON HAS AND PEOPLE WHOSE WAVE-LENGHT DOESN'T MATCH WITH MINE CAN'T SENSE ME AT ALL.


THAT ONE, PITIFULLY, ALSO DOESN'T HAVE TALENT FOR BLACK MAGIC...
...KINZO IS ALSO THE SAME.

...HE REACHED THE LEVEL OF A MAGICIAN AFTER LOTS OF MADDENING SELF-STUDYING.
SO... EVEN THOUGH HE DIDN'T HAVE THE SLIGHTEST TALENT, HE ARRIVED THERE...
BEATRICE-SAMA...?

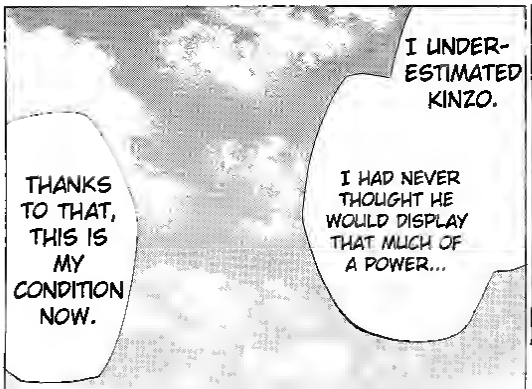
AFTER ALL, IN THESE TIMES WHEN MAGIC IS CONTINUALLY DENIED, A PERSON WITH ZERO TALENT WAS DESPERATELY DOING THAT...
TO HAVE THOUGHT TO TEASE HIM A LITTLE BIT WAS THE END OF MY LUCK, KUKUKU

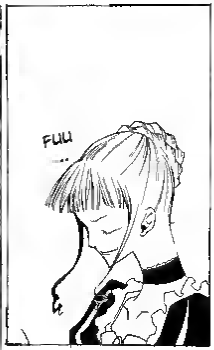

AND THEN... WITH THE POWER OF MAGIC, THE MASTER INVOKED BEATRICE -SAMA...
HUMU... WELL, I ANSWERED TO HIS SUMMONING ON A WHIM.

THEN, THE MASTER... USED THAT GOLD TO MAKE HIS BUSINESS SUCCESSFUL AND OBTAIN THE FORTUNE HE HAS TODAY.
HUMU, HE HAD NO TALENT FOR MAGIC AT ALL, BUT IT SEEMS HE HAD TALENT FOR BUSINESS.

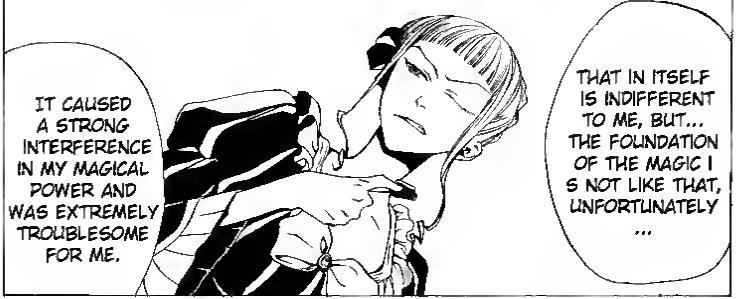
THERE, FORMS AND RULES HAD BEEN ASSEMBLED, SOME MANNERS HAD BEEN MIXED, BUT...
WELL, IN DEFERENCE TO HIS ENTHUSIASM, I WAS TOLERANT AND COMPLIED TO THE CONTRACT.
... AND THEN, I GRANTED HIM A MOUNTAIN OF GOLD.

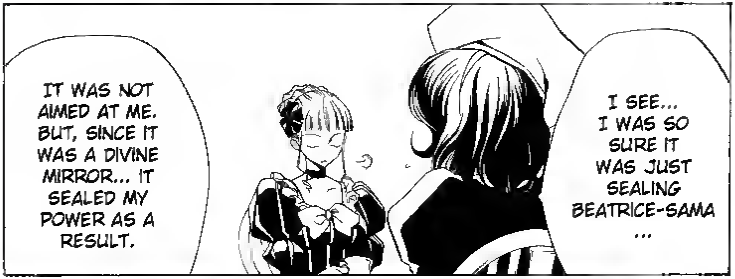
THEN, AFTER HAVING MADE ALL POSSIBLE DREAMS IN THE HUMAN WORLD COME TRUE,
IN THE END, KINZO SOUGHT FOR THE TRUTH OF THE WORLD.
THE TRUTH... OF THE WORLD...

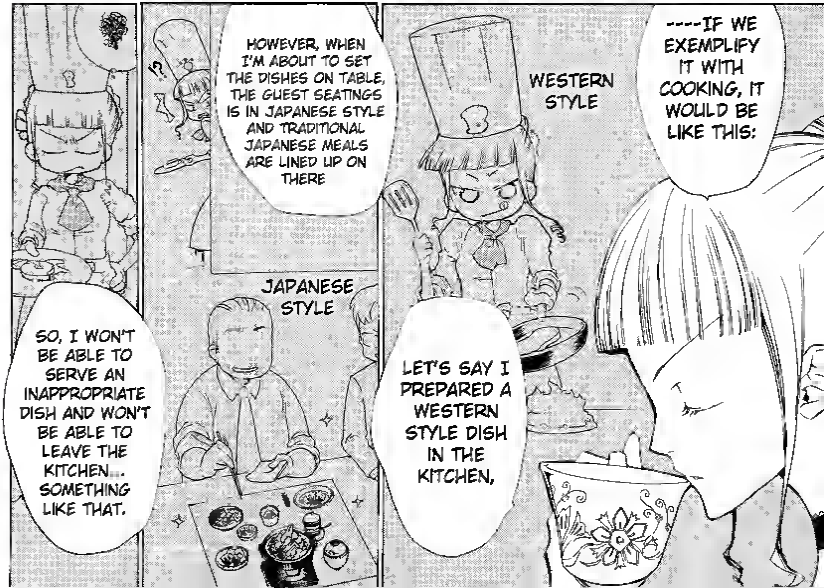

I UNDER-ESTIMATED KINZO.
I HAD NEVER THOUGHT HE WOULD DISPLAY THAT MUCH OF A POWER...
THANKS TO THAT, THIS IS MY CONDITION NOW.

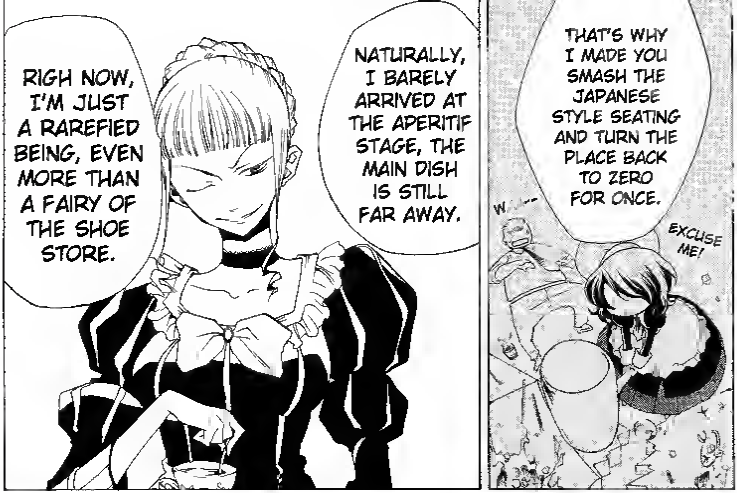

FUU...

THESE WERE QUITE SOME DECADES OF BOREDOM...
WITHOUT FRIENDS TO DRINK TEA TOGETHER, STUCK IN THIS ISLAND FOR MANY DECADES.
... NO MATTER WITH WHOM I TRY TO TALK TO, MY VOICE DOESN'T REACH ANYONE, I CAN'T GO ANYWHERE...
UNTIL I HAD YOU BREAK THAT MIRROR FOR ME...
...A LONG TIME AGO, ON AN ISLAND AROUND HERE, IT SEEMS LOTS OF THINGS HAPPENED, AND BECAUSE OF THOSE THINGS, LOT OF BAD THINGS GATHERED AND PULLED TOWARDS THEMSELVES AN EVIL DISTORTION.
THEN, IT SEEMS THAT AN ORIENTAL TRAVELING MAGICIAN OR SOMETHING BUILT A TEMPLE FOR THE REPOSE OF SOULS THERE AND ENTRAPPED THEM.
WHAT ON EARTH... WAS THAT MIRROR...?
HUMU...

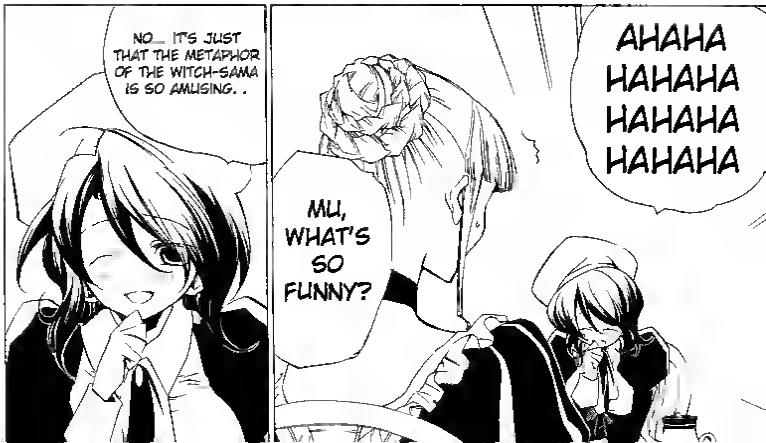

IT CAUSED A STRONG INTERFERENCE IN MY MAGICAL POWER AND WAS EXTREMELY TROUBLESOME FOR ME.
THAT IN ITSELF IS INDIFFERENT TO ME, BUT... THE FOUNDATION OF THE MAGIC I S NOT LIKE THAT, UNFORTUNATELY ...

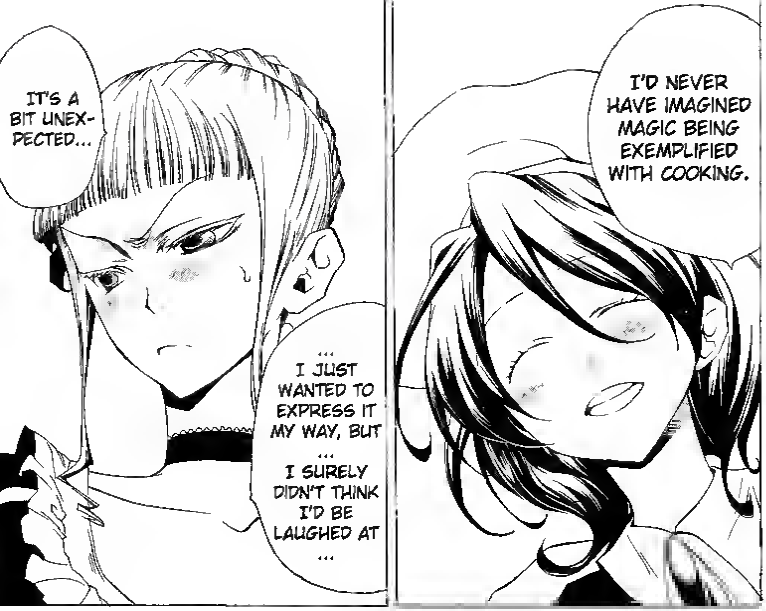

IT WAS NOT AIMED AT ME. BUT, SINCE IT WAS A DIVINE MIRROR... IT SEALED MY POWER AS A RESULT.
I SEE... I WAS SO SURE IT WAS JUST SEALING BEATRICE-SAMA ...

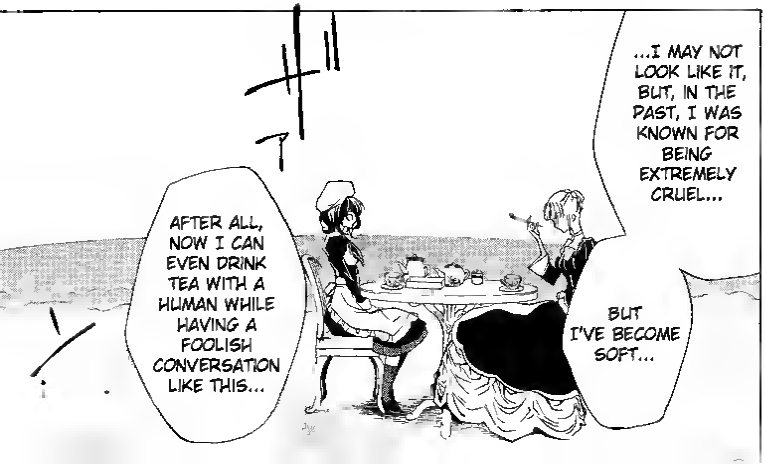

SO, I WON'T BE ABLE TO SERVE AN INAPPROPRIATE DISH AND WON'T BE ABLE TO LEAVE THE KITCHEN... SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
HOWEVER, WHEN I'M ABOUT TO SET THE DISHES ON TABLE, THE GUEST SEATINGS IS IN JAPANESE STYLE AND TRADITIONAL JAPANESE MEALS ARE LINED UP ON THERE
JAPANESE STYLE
LET'S SAY I PREPARED A WESTERN STYLE DISH IN THE KITCHEN,
WESTERN STYLE
----IF WE EXEMPLIFY IT WITH COOKING, IT WOULD BE LIKE THIS:

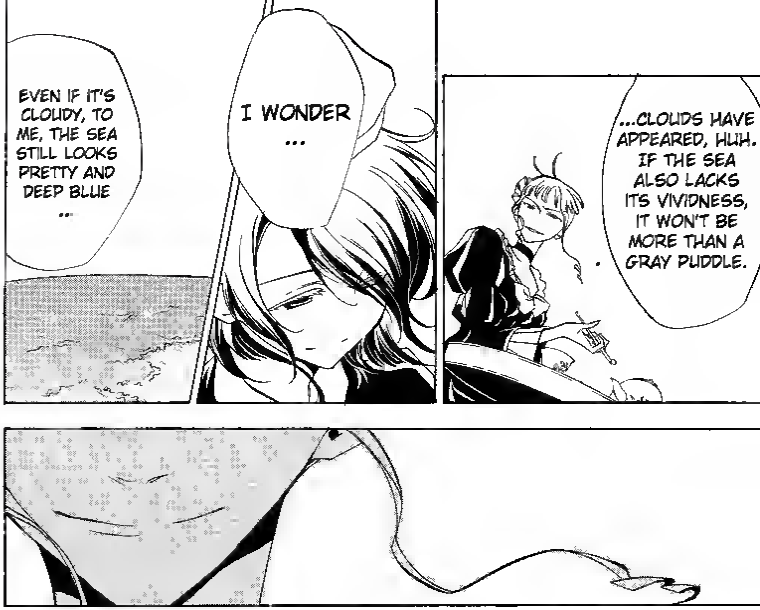

RIGH NOW, I'M JUST A RAREFIED BEING, EVEN MORE THAN A FAIRY OF THE SHOE STORE.
NATURALLY, I BARELY ARRIVED AT THE APERITIF STAGE, THE MAIN DISH IS STILL FAR AWAY.
THAT'S WHY I MADE YOU SMASH THE JAPANESE STYLE SEATING AND TURN THE PLACE BACK TO ZERO FOR ONCE.
W...
EXCUSE ME!

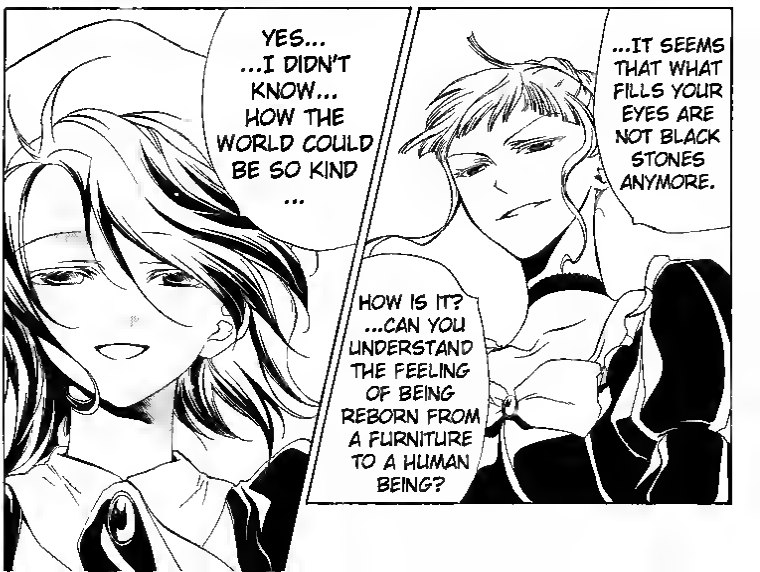
PU-!


NO... IT'S JUST THAT THE METAPHOR OF THE WITCH-SAMA IS SO AMUSING. .
MU, WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
AHAHA HAHAHA HAHAHA HAHAHA


IT'S A BIT UNEXPECTED...
...
I JUST WANTED TO EXPRESS IT MY WAY, BUT
...
I SURELY DIDN'T THINK I'D BE LAUGHED AT
...
I'D NEVER HAVE IMAGINED MAGIC BEING EXEMPLIFIED WITH COOKING.


...I MAY NOT LOOK LIKE IT, BUT, IN THE PAST, I WAS KNOWN FOR BEING EXTREMELY CRUEL...
BUT I'VE BECOME SOFT...
AFTER ALL, NOW I CAN EVEN DRINK TEA WITH A HUMAN WHILE HAVING A FOOLISH CONVERSATION LIKE THIS...


EVEN IF IT'S CLOUDY, TO ME, THE SEA STILL LOOKS PRETTY AND DEEP BLUE ...
I WONDER ...
...CLOUDS HAVE APPEARED, HUH. IF THE SEA ALSO LACKS ITS VIVIDNESS, IT WON'T BE MORE THAN A GRAY PUDDLE.


YES... ...I DIDN'T KNOW... HOW THE WORLD COULD BE SO KIND ...
...IT SEEMS THAT WHAT FILLS YOUR EYES ARE NOT BLACK STONES ANYMORE.
HOW IS IT? ...CAN YOU UNDERSTAND THE FEELING OF BEING REBORN FROM A FURNITURE TO A HUMAN BEING?

EH?
IT SEEMS THERE'S ALSO SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T LIKE THAT YOU AND I DRINK TEA TOGETHER, HUH?
THESE RARE TEA AND CAKES BECAME QUITE A BANQUET. IT WAS A WORTHWHILE TIME, BUT LET'S FINISH OUR TEA PARTY HERE
SFX:FUWA

2月号に続く》1月17日土曜発売

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Episode2
Turn of the golden witch

DO NOT WORRY, KANON, WE WILL END THE TEA PARTY HERE.
SINCE WHEN WERE YOU THERE? YOU SHOULD HAVE CALLED TO US...
IT WAS FUN, SHANNON. TELL ME ABOUT GEORGE AGAIN LATER.
MY MAGICAL POWER IS STILL NOT ENOUGH AT ALL...
JUST TO PUT UP A SHAPE IS TIRESOME ENOUGH
...IF YOU ARE SO TIRED, DO NOT SHOW UP AGAIN.

KU KU ...
THEN, FARE-WELL.
NEE -SAN !

I TOLD YOU TO NOT GET INVOLVED WITH THAT WOMAN, DIDN'T I!?
……
… BEATRICE -SAMA IS … NOT THAT BAD OF A PERSON.
SHE'S NOT HUMAN, YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT SHE'S SCHEMING!
KANON-KUN, I THINK THAT'S A BIT… RUDE.
TSC
……
CERTAINLY, BEATRICE-SAMA HOLDS A DREADFUL POWER. I THINK SHE'S A BEING WE NEED TO FEAR AND RESPECT,
BUT I ALSO THINK IT'S VERY RUDE TO DETEST HER JUST BECAUSE SHE'S NOT HUMAN.

...NEE-SAN, AFTER YOU RECEIVED THAT BUTTERFLY BROOCH FROM HER, YOU CHANGED... IT'S LIKE YOU'RE A SLAVE TO THE WITCH.
AFTER SHE MEDIATED YOUR RELATION-SHIP WITH GEORGE-SAMA, YOU'RE INDEBTED TO HER...
... DON'T SAY THAT ...
SHE'S NOT HUMAN,
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT SHE IS THINKING. SO, YOU MUST NOT LET YOUR GUARD DOWN.
AND WE ARE ALSO THE SAME, AS WE ARE NOT HUMANS TOO.

WE ARE FURNITURE... EVEN IF WE HAVE A NAME AND ARE TREATED LIKE PEOPLE, IT DOESN'T MEAN WE'LL BE REBORN.
YOU'RE NOT FURNI-TURE ANY-MORE
I'M NOT ... FURNI-TURE ...
NO, YOU ARE FURNITURE! A BEING THAT IS LESS THAN HUMAN!
I'M NOT FURNITURE ...
NEE-SAN, YOU'RE JUST PRETENDING FORGOT IT... YOU'RE SUP-POSED TO UNDERSTAND IT YOURSELF!
I'M HU-MAN !!

...
I HEARD FROM OJOU -SAMA AND, HONESTLY, I WAS SHOCKED.
SHOCKED THAT YOU WENT OUT ON A TRIP WITH GEORGE -SAMA...!
YOU FORGOT YOUR POSITION AS FURNITURE!
NO, YOU'RE NOT HUMAN.
WE ARE NEITHER QUALIFIED TO LOVE, NOR TO BE LOVED.
NEE-SAN WAS TEMPTED BY THAT WITCH,
AND NOW IS HAVING THE WRONG IDEA THAT SHE COULD BECOME HUMAN!

...LISTEN, KANON-KUN
...
WOULDN'T THAT MEAN WE COULD BECOME HUMAN?
...
BUT, IF WE COULD OBTAIN THAT PART WE LACK ...
BEINGS THAT ARE FAR LESS THAN A HUMAN ...
...
CERTAINLY, WE ARE FURNITURE.
...
SUCH A THING... WOULDN'T HAPPEN.
NO, IT WOULD.
IF WE OBTAINED THAT, WE COULD BECOME HUMAN.

...
QUIT WITH THIS WITCH'S TALE.
UHM, BEATRICE -SAMA TAUGHT ME THIS.
...BY OBTAINING THE SINGLE ELEMENT OF THE WORLD, WE CAN BECOME HUMAN.
NO... PERHAPS WE SHOULD SAY THAT NOT FULFILLING THAT IS WHAT IS NOT HUMAN... THAT'S WHY PEOPLE SPEND THEIR WHOLE LIFE IN SEARCH TO OBTAIN THE SINGLE ELEMENT ...
...
NEE-SAN, I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU ARE SAYING ...
...THEN I'LL TELL YOU IN A WAY YOU'LL UNDERSTAND, KANON-KUN.

THE SEA... WHICH COLOR DOES IT HAVE TO YOU, KANON-KUN?
...HOW LAME, IT'S GRAY... WHAT ABOUT THAT?
TO ME, IT LOOKS DEEP BLUE.
... THAT'S WHAT YOU MEAN? YOU PROBABLY MEAN BLUE LIKE IN THE GREEN TRAFFIC LIGHT...

TN: IN JAPANESE, 'AO' CAN MEAN BOTH GREEN AND BLUE.

NO.
...THE SEA IS DEEP BLUE.
IF I CAN SEE IT AND KANON-KUN CAN'T...
...IN OTHER WORDS, THIS IS WHAT IT MEANS.
.....
I CAN'T SEE IT.
KANON-KUN ... GIMME YOUR HAND.
?

.....
NO, THIS IS MINE.
... SO, THINK OF IT AS ME... AND TREAT IT WELL, OK?
THIS IS ... HERS?
.....
GRAY WILL ALWAYS BE GRAY, NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES WE LOOK AT IT.
YOU'RE WRONG, KANON-KUN THE REASON IT LOOKS LIKE THAT TO YOU IS BECAUSE ---
THIS IS AN AMULET THAT HOLDS TRUE MAGICAL POWER.
I'M SURE IT WILL TEACH KANON-KUN PRECIOUS THINGS...
AND I'M SURE EVEN THE SEA WILL LOOK BEAUTIFULLY BLUE TO YOU.

SFX: WIND BLOWING
THERE'S NO ----
EH?

BECAUSE ...
I'M SURE KANON-KUN WILL BE ABLE TO SEE A DEEP BLUE SEA TOO,

IF THERE'S NO LOVE
YOU CAN'T SEE IT.

HOW UNUSUAL... FOR HIM TO LEAVE THE STUDY...
IT'S KANON, MASTER.
...
WHO'S THERE?
!
...
WHAT A HEAVY WEATHER, AND WILL GET WORSE, HUH...

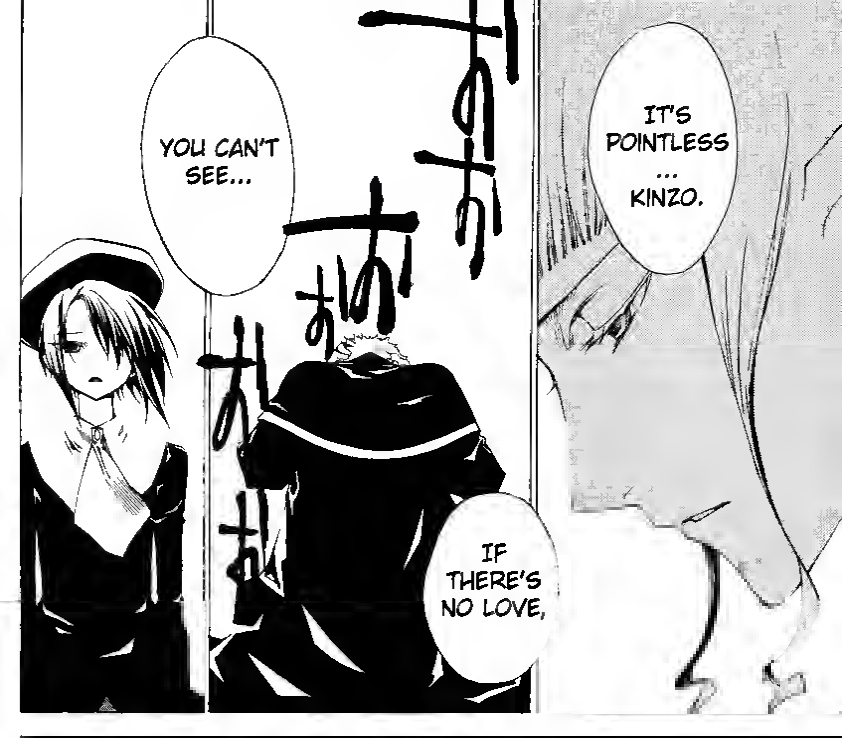
IF MY SON OR THE OTHERS ASK ABOUT ME, JUST TELL THEM YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE I AM... I'M BUSY IN A JOURNEY THROUGH MY THOUGHTS...
YES, THE WEATHER FORECAST SAID IT COULD RAIN ANYTIME..
SHALL I BRING YOU AN UMBRELLA?
DON'T NEED THAT... JUST LEAVE ME ALONE FOR A WHILE.

BUUH
BUUH
OOH BEATRICE
BUUH
BUUH
MY HANDS CAN'T REACH YOUR SMILE
BUUH
BUUH
WHAT SHOULD I DO FOR YOU TO RESSURRECT...
BUUH

OOOOH!!! BEATRICE!!
OOOOOH, WHAT SHOULD I DO???
WHAT SHOULD I DO SO THAT I CAN SEE YOUR FACE ONCE MORE ...!!
WHAT DO I LACK ... IS IT RESEARCH, OR DATA, OR CATALYSTS ...
OR IS IT MAGICAL POWER, OR GOOD LUCK, OR AN ORACLE ...!
OOOH, BEATRICE !!!

!
!
GET AWAY FROM THE MASTER...
BEA-TRICE!!

EVEN THOUGH I'M RIGHT HERE... YOU CAN'T SEE ME, HUH...
WHY... WHY MY HANDS DO NOT REACH BEATRICE'S SMILE...!
IS IT THE PHASE OF THE MOON OR THE CYCLE OF MERCURY ...!
YOU'RE SUCH A FOOL, KINZO ...
WHAT DO I LACK ...
WHAT ...? WHAAAT ???



I WONDER IF, SOMEDAY,

TO SEE SOMETHING THAT I CAN'T SEE NOW...
...IF THERE'S NO LOVE...
YOU CAN'T SEE ...
SOMETHING SPROUTS IN KANON'S HEART----...

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